The purpose of this dictionary and thesaurus of contemporary figurative language and metaphor is to identify all the words and phrases used figuratively and metaphorically in everyday contemporary English and to categorize each word or phrase not only by meaning but also by what cognitive linguists and others have described variously as figure and ground, target and source, physical basis and domain, in order to provide a reference for English as a Second Language (ESL) and English as a Foreign Language (EFL) teachers. The compiler is a lifelong EFL teacher of adult military students in Saudi Arabia. First, he identified and recorded words and phrases used figuratively, along with short examples of use that highlight collocates to create the alphabetized dictionary of collocations: the first entry is ablaze (set something ablaze) and the last entry is zoom (zoom out). Second, he used the tags to create the thesaurus. Examples of tags include container; allusion; direction; weight; movement; temperature; theater; sports & games; person; increase & decrease; resistance, opposition & defeat, etc. The result reinforces the important role figurative language plays in common and everyday language and the importance that collocation plays in distinguishing such language. The work provides many insights. For example, while much figurative language has arisen from the domain of the theater, the thesaurus shows the majority relates to three areas: development; attention, scrutiny & promotion; and performance. Another insight is to show how often words for people are used figuratively: outcast, butcher, author, guide, cheerleader, etc. The work has implications for ESL / EFL teaching, which tends to focus on the literal meanings of words, usually the first sense in a dictionary. Clearly, more attention should be paid to other senses of words, and this work will help to identify and classify them. Besides ESL / EFL teachers, the work will interest ESL / EFL curriculum developers and materials writers. It could be a part of an ESL / EFL teacher-training course. It provides a model for similar works created in the future by lexicographers and applied and cognitive linguists. Preliminary short discussions based on the work include (1) 60 + common metaphors (2) Collocation (3) Epithets (4) Persons (5) The “container” metaphor (6) Grammatical metaphor, fictive verbs, etc. (7) Past, present and future (8) Allusions (9) Euphemisms (10) Gestures and bodily processes (11) Shapes and parts-whole (12) Animacy (13) Persistence, survival and endurance (14) Old and new clichés (15) Quotations (16) Synonyms and opposites (17) Lessons and exercises, and (18) To the ESL / EFL teacher, which focuses on how the dictionary and thesaurus impacts the knowledge and experience base of the ESL / EFL teacher.
A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor

by Joseph Gagen Stockdale III

May 19, 2019
Table of contents

1. Dedication 3
2. Introduction 4-6
3. 60 + common metaphors 8-13
4. Collocation 14
5. Epithets 15-16
6. Persons 17
7. The “container” metaphor 18
8. Grammatical metaphor, fictive verbs, etc. 19
9. Past, present and future 20
10. Allusions 21
11. Euphemisms 22-23
12. Gestures and bodily processes 24
13. Shapes and parts-whole 25
14. Animacy 26-27
15. Persistence, survival and endurance 28-29
16. Old and new clichés 30-33
17. Quotations 34-35
18. Synonyms and opposites 36-37
19. Lessons and exercises 38-39
20. To the EFL / ESL teacher 40-43
21. The dictionary of collocations 44-710
22. The thesaurus / categories 711-981
Dedication

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

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

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

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

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

Joseph Gagen Stockdale III
Introduction

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

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

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

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

I highly praised him—a Zahrani, I recall…

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

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

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

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

Another time, I remember teaching a lesson on shopping that included the word mall. This provided me the opportunity to speak for a brief moment about mall rats, girls and boys who go to malls to flirt. Saudi Arabia has malls, girls, and boys, of course, but flirting is not supposed to
occur, and premarital sex can be a death sentence. Not only that, but in Saudi Arabia comparing a man to an animal of any type is potentially a deadly insult.

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

I loved how he modified the phrase with big!

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

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

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

I'm sure you can think of many examples.

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

I like the figurative world because it is connected to the natural world, a world I admire, and not just through the window of an automobile. It includes creatures from childhood like monsters and witches, as well as words that come from "grown up" subjects like astronomy, history, physics, and medicine. In the figurative world, words still refer to older technologies and practices like sailing, mills, farming, and hunting, and somehow I understand them. The figurative world maintains allusions to literature, to the Iliad and the Odyssey, Dickens, Mary Shelley, and the Bible. In the figurative world, drumbeats still carry a message, a simple object such as a coin or a chain can express a fundamental relationship, and a pancake can express a shape or configuration.
Figurative language offers synonyms, antonyms, and makes connections. You can be *up to your neck* or *up to your eyeballs* in something. Take your pick! If you have a problem, you can *tackle* it or *punt*. Both those words come from American football. Or, you can kick the can down the road, something I often did as a boy. You can *coast* / *waltz* / *sail* to success. You can say, “That ship has sailed,” or you can say, “That train has left the station” depending on whether you are into ships or trains. When it comes to resolution and conclusion, you can *bury the ghosts*, or *put something to rest*.

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

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

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

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

In Saudi Arabia a young man might walk miles to get from one place to another. While walking, he will notice the *ashes* of old campfires, and the *footprints* of those who have walked the *path* before him. He will pay attention to the *weather*, and to the *light*. If he is out past sunset and has planned ahead and carried some wood, he might light a *fire* for warmth or companionship, and notice other such lights on the horizon, or across a valley, and he will notice the *stars* in the sky. Such a person will already know the physical bases of words like *trail*, *fire*, *footprint*, *beacon*, *weather*, and *star* and will feel the shock of recognition in their figurative and metaphorical usages.
And the figurative and the literal maintain a very interesting dynamic, and get tangled up and become controversial quite surprisingly often. A significant case occurred at the beginning of 2011 in the US, when the elected politician Gabrielle Giffords and others were shot in the US. Giffords’ district had been targeted on a map with cross-hairs by an ideological opponent. Alas, the association of targets with weapons, or the association of conflict with war, cannot be easily undone, as those connections are woven into the very fabric of our language. Yet another case in the US involved an educator who appeared on the cover of a national magazine with a broom. Voters did not like the idea of their local teachers being associated with dirt to be swept out, and voted the mayor out, forcing the educator to resign. Another case regards the use of crusade in Arab countries.

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

Metaphor is nothing new: the ancient Greeks talked about metaphor, and many of the metaphors we use today come from the Bible. Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., in his book Word Origins (published by Grosset & Dunlap, New York), has several paragraphs and many good examples concerning what cognitive linguists currently refer to as the “up is good, down is bad” metaphor in the chapter titled “Word Oddities.” My copy of his book is copyrighted 1950.

It took years for the fruits of research on collocation to get into our curriculums, materials, and dictionaries. The revised and updated version of the military curriculum I taught for so many years in Saudi Arabia—the American Language Course (ALC) created by the Defense Language Institute (DLI)—now contains many excellent exercises that are based on collocation. It is my hope that the next big effort in language teaching will be to incorporate the figurative uses of words into our curriculums.

This dictionary and thesaurus should encourage and help.
60+ common metaphors

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

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

15. **Journeys & trips** can represent life. After college, you set out / embark on a course. You encounter crossroads or forks in the road and choose your direction. You might follow in someone else’s footsteps or blaze your own trail. You will cross that bridge when you come to it, encounter obstacles in your path and take shortcuts and detours. Milestones along the way might include marriage, children, and promotions. Life can be a hard slog, and some fall by the wayside. But hopefully you will be happy and content when you reach the end of the road, especially if you are one of those who took “the [road] less travelled by.”

16. A **line** often relates to **behavior**: “You are out of line. You have crossed the line. You are over the line. You have crossed a red line.”

17. An **animal** can relate to **predation**, especially lions, wolves and sharks: “Famine still stalks the inhabitants of the Sahel.” “If you are not a wolf, a wolf will eat you.” “His critics are circling, they can smell blood in the water, and they are out for blood.”

18. **Smell** often relates to **evidence** and **corruption**: “I began sniffing out government corruption. And when I got wind of the business deal, I immediately detected something fishy. Something stank, and by the time I had finished my investigation, the stench filled my nostrils.”

19. **Affliction** can relate to a **creature** (like a ghost) and **health & medicine** and to a **mark** (like a scar): “He was never able to exorcise the ghosts of Afghanistan, heal his emotional wounds, and the mental scars of his service are still livid, raw and itchy.”

20. A **weight** or a **burden** can relate to **oppression**: “I was weighed down by a heavy load of debt that I knew I would never be able to get out from under, and the repossession of my car was the straw that broke the camel’s back.”

21. **Health & medicine** can relate to the **condition & status** of something: The economy is on life support / moribund / weak / recovering / healthy / robust, etc.

22. **Ruin** can relate to **destruction**. “Even though my company had collapsed, and my reputation was in ruins, I began to rebuild.”

23. **Water** can relate to the size and force of **movement**: “The number of asylum seekers began as a trickle or stream and is now a flood. A groundswell of immigration is threatening to inundate the border, and those opposed to migration are characterizing it as a tsunami.”

24. **Rain**, a **storm**, a **wind**, or natural disasters like an **avalanche**, a **landslide**, an **earthquake**, or a **tsunami**, and great forces like a **volcano**, a **river**, the **sea**, a **fire**, a **wave** and **water** often relate to **amount and effect**: an avalanche / blizzard / firestorm / flood / deluge / landslide / tidal wave / tsunami / storm / surge of criticism, protest, etc.

25. **Direction** and **height** can relate to **behavior** and **character & personality**: “An upright man always takes the high road and does not get down in the gutter or in the mud with
his enemies of low repute. To such a man, morality is straightforward, and his opposite is a snake, taking a twisted path.”

26. Astronomy can relate to the idea of primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: “One boxer’s star is rising, the current champion’s star is at its zenith, while the former champ’s star is setting.”

27. Books & reading can relate to development: “When I graduated from university, it was time to close the book on that stage of my life, turn the page, and start a new chapter in my life.”

28. Food & drink can relate to consumption and to absorption & immersion: “I developed a taste for exploration as a young boy. I gorged on the books of explorers, I devoured them, I drank in / lapped up / gobbled up and digested their lessons learned, and my appetite for them was insatiable. Soon I began taking little voyages of my own about the neighborhood and developed a taste for freedom. In fact, I became a glutton for it.”

29. Sports & games commonly relate to competition: the contest of measure and countermeasure (warfare); the space race; we are ahead of them; we must not fall behind; they are outpacing us and we will have to do better to keep up; when it comes to global warming, there will be winners and losers; she is jockeying for position; he is the front-runner, etc.

30. A season can relate to growth & development and decline: “I am in the autumn of my life;” nuclear winter; the Arab Spring...

31. The day can relate to past & present and future: in the old days; back in the day; those days; yesterday; these days; nowadays; a new day; in the coming days, “hopes and dreams for a better tomorrow.”

32. Hygiene is related, too often in a sinister way, to violence and concealment & lack of concealment: a military “cleanup” operation; ethnic cleansing; “wash the filthy scum off the streets,” whitewash, sanitize, scrub, launder, etc.

33. Water (swimming and drowning) often relates to survival & endurance: “My first semester at college, I felt like I was I out of my depth and drowning. I was just treading water, barely able to keep my head above water and stay afloat. Letters from home were a real lifeline. Things are much better now.”

34. Equilibrium is often related to disruption: “The company has shaken up the industry and rattled the major players by overturning accepted assumptions and norms.” It is also related to fairness: “The idea will tilt the balance and create an unequal playing field.”

35. Temperature can relate to feeling, emotion & effect: “Relations between the two countries, previously frosty, have begun to thaw, but they can in no way be described as warm yet.”

36. Direction up or down can relate to feeling, emotion & effect: “You look downhearted. Cheer up! I can see you need a lift. Let’s do something to raise your spirits.”

37. A clock and the time of day sometimes relate to timeliness & lack of timeliness. So can a window: “We had better hurry. The clock is ticking. It’s no longer early in the morning, it’s late in the day. We’re in a race with the clock now, and the clock is winding down. Our window of opportunity is closing fast.”
38. Natural obstacles can relate figuratively to **obstacles & impedance**: headwind; shoal; morass; mud; quagmire; quicksand; thicket; logjam; snag, etc.

39. A **desert** or **oasis** or **jungle** or **swamp** or **island** or **sea** and other geographical features are often used figuratively to describe an **environment**. “Too many urban areas are food deserts with little access to fresh food.” “It’s a jungle out there, be careful.” “The area is an island of affluence in a sea of squalor.” “We must drain the swamp of Congress.” The **air**, the **atmosphere** and the **climate** can be used to talk about environment in general. “There is tension in the air / atmosphere, and a climate of fear.”

40. A **plant** and **farming & agriculture** are often related to **growth & development**: “Christianity found fertile ground in the Philippines, where the seeds the missionaries planted took root and flourished / bore fruit.”

41. **Standing**, **sitting & lying** can relate to many things, including **dominance & submission**, and **resistance, opposition, & defeat**, and also **action, inaction & delay**. These meanings are often combined in a series: “We can’t take this lying down. Why are we just sitting on our hands? We can’t stand by any longer. It’s time to stand up and make a stand.”

42. **Health & medicine; addiction; love, courtship & marriage; and religion** can all relate to **enthusiasm**: “I’m crazy about dragonflies”; “Adrenaline junkies risk life and limb at the X games for their sport”; “To meet a walrus is to fall in love with a walrus” (a walrus researcher); “It’s a bit of a disease” (Jay Leno on his vehicle collection); “Mountains are truly cathedrals” (the great “Big” Jim Whittaker, climber). The opening line of Norman Maclean’s book *A River Runs Through It* reads, “In our family, there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing.”

43. The Galapagos Islands have become an **epithet** for the **biodiversity** of endemic species. The fascinating Yemeni island of Socotra has been called the “Galapagos of the Indian Ocean.” Alaska’s Pribilof Islands are known as the Galapagos of the North. In Unesco’s World Heritage Site citation, Lake Baikal in eastern Russia is referred to as the Galapagos of Russia. The Hawaiian Islands Marine National Park has been referred to as the American Galapagos, and the Haida Gwaii have been referred to as the Canadian Galapagos.

44. Allusions from the *Iliad* & *Odyssey* relate to the following: **attraction** (siren); **affliction** (hector); **subterfuge** (Trojan horse); **journeys & trips** (odyssey); **message** (Cassandra); **protection & lack of protection** (Achilles’ heel), **superlative** (epic and Homeric), and **alternative & choices** and **danger** (between Scylla and Charybdis). This vocabulary will live in the language long after the details are forgotten.

45. **Alcohol**, can relate to several things: **activity** (ferment); **behavior** (binge, drunk, and inebriate); **concealment & lack of concealment** (bootleg and bootlegger); **consciousness and awareness** (black out); **control and lack of control** (drunk); **feeling, emotion & effect** (hangover, intoxicate, inebriate, intoxicating, sober, and sobering); **mixture** (cocktail); and **restraint & lack of restraint** (binge, drunk, and inebriate). You don’t have to be a drinker to be “drunk on power / success.”

46. Falling can relate to **fate, fortune & chance**. If you are on thin ice, you might fall through the ice and drown. Likewise, when you go out on a limb, the limb might break.
and then you will fall to the ground and die. If you are hanging on to your job by a thread, that thread might break. If you are walking a tightrope, you might fall off and die. If you are teetering on the edge of a precipice, you might fall and die. The sky can fall. If your head is on the chopping block, the blade could fall on your neck and your head will roll. That blade might be the Sword of Damocles. Or perhaps you are waiting for a shoe to drop or fall.

47. **Cards** can relate to fate, fortune & chance: “The cards were stacked against Rubin Carter from birth. He was dealt a hand nobody could play. But by the luck of the draw, a sympathetic judge was selected to try his final case of habeas corpus.”

48. A euphemism is often used for death. Expressions include pass away; the fallen; lose (through death); resting place, etc. A set of sinister euphemisms relate violence to hygiene: ethnic cleansing; brain washing; sanitize; scrub; a military cleanup, etc.

49. **Money** can relate to obligation: “The grateful nation owes a debt of gratitude to the sacrifices of its military. We can never fully repay those who paid the ultimate price for our freedom.”

50. **Money** is often related to cost & benefit. “I made a costly mistake, I paid a price for my mistake, it took a toll on me, but in the end I profited from it, though it took years and years before I understood what exactly the payoff was.”

51. **Society** can relate to a person like a leper, castaway, outcast, pariah, and hermit. Such people might find themselves separated from the mainland, on an island, in the wilderness, left out in the cold, outside of the tent, on the fringe, etc.

52. **Noise** and movement are often related to activity: The factory floor was a beehive of activity, swarming with workers, with machines large and small humming and buzzing.

53. **Gesture** can relate to feeling, emotion & effect: “The latest college admissions scandal has some people shaking their heads, others rolling their eyes, and a few wringing their hands.”

54. **Cloth** can relate to division & connection: “We are used to traveling around on an interwoven, tight-knit, seemingly seamless system of highways. But some strands have become frayed.” So can a rope: “A nation is bound / tied together by its system of roads.”

55. **Containers** can relate to situations: “I got into trouble, I was in a tight spot, trapped, desperate to get out.”

56. **Love, courtship & marriage** can be connected to attraction & repulsion and to pursuit, capture & escape: “She was the darling of Wall Street, she had no problem wooing and seducing eager investors—including ex-generals, one ex-president, Henry Kissinger, and two nationally important families—and she had the media swooning.”

57. **Sound** can represent conflict: “His comments caused an uproar and howls of protest, with many clamoring for an apology, and outcries for his resignation.”

58. An explosion or a weapon from the military can represent danger: On a bad day academia can be a minefield full of booby traps, trip wires and hidden landmines.”

59. Verbs of hitting, slamming & lashing are often related to the force of storms, hurricanes, and tornadoes: “The hurricane battered the island with a horrific storm surge,
pummeled inland areas with winds and rain, and knocked out the power grid before moving on to clobber the mainland.”

60. **Direction** (up and down) can relate to **hierarchy**. “When I started out in my job, I started out at the bottom. I was low man on the totem pole, and literally everyone in the company was over me. With hard work and perseverance, I began to rise up. I began to climb the career ladder. When my superiors realized I wanted to take care of those under me, and not just please them, I rose even higher. Today I am not at the top of the pyramid, but I am very happy where I am, and I am ready to assume additional responsibility.”

61. **Religion** often relates to **message**: He has used his bully pulpit to preach the gospel of American exceptionalism, and his crusade has been wildly popular, particularly to the members of the choir.

62. **Sensation** can relate to **feeling, emotion & effect**: “That guy is irritating, he rubs me the wrong way.” “Yeah, he can be abrasive. But you’re too sensitive, you need to develop thicker skin.”

63. An **animal** often relates to **conflict**: You can bristle, get your back up, and stand your ground. You might then go head to head and butt heads, or lock horns with someone. You might be out for blood, smell blood, and draw blood. Or you might give ground, turn tail and run, or lie down and roll over.
Collocation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Alternatives include “(the) Adj + X.” The Haida Gwaii Islands have been referred to as *the Canadian Galapagos*. The Hawaiian Islands Marine National Park is *the American Galapagos*. “He studied counterinsurgency at Duntroon, the Australian West Point.” In the early 19th century, in northwestern Illinois, lead was referred to as *gray gold*. In the 19th century guano was referred to as *white gold*. Oil is frequently referred to as *black gold*, and it is possible that the *blue gold* of the future will be bulk water shipments to arid countries.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Epithets for geographical places are quite common. Cities are often compared to a pearl: Manila, the Pearl of the Orient; or Dubrovnik, the Pearl of the Adriatic, etc. But my favorite is the one for Lake Baikal, “the Blue Eye of Siberia.” On the BBC news world map, you can just see it to the east of the larger Black and Caspian Seas and the smaller Lake Balkhash. My eye never fails to note it due to its beautiful epithet. In every respect it is an amazing lake.

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

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

A person might relate to an occupation. A **butcher** is associated with oppression, warfare, and slaughter, even though the friendly butchers at the supermarket where I buy my meat seem to be perfectly normal, friendly and helpful folks. We should all be a good **steward** of the land, even if we don’t work on ships, trains, or airplanes. You can be an **ambassador** without being a member of the State Department, as Mike Tyson was when he visited China to promote boxing.

“Adjuncts are the **field hands** of education” doesn’t mean that adjuncts literally labor in the fields and pick crops, as Cesar Chavez did. It means that they stoop to gain employment, get their hands dirty teaching actual classes, do all the heavy lifting, have little control over what they are paid, work seasonally, and have to travel a lot.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The past, present and future is often thought of as movement based on a point of view. The statement, “Winter is approaching / coming” and “the big day has arrived” implies that things in the future come towards us. We commonly use this idea for scheduled events like deadlines, holidays, anniversaries, birthdays, seasons, etc. The idea is also expressed in statements like “We will have to stay here for a time to come” and “There might be problems in the coming months.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Allusions like the Overton window and the Matilda effect have been coined recently and are perhaps less well known than the ones mentioned above. They may or may not survive in a hundred years.

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

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

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

Allusions reflect our more-or-less shared knowledge, memory, history, culture, and education. Explaining allusions gives us a chance to teach and talk about many things besides just grammar and vocabulary, including the biography and history of Jumbo the elephant.

In Saudi Arabia I was constantly amazed at what my Saudi military students knew and didn’t know when it came to allusions.
Euphemisms

In this work a list of current euphemisms can be found in the category euphemism.

In the early part of the 20th century, at least, “to go West” meant the destruction of a thing or the death of a person. A World One member of a tank crew wrote, “It’s a mile to your objective now, but it’s a mile of thrills... A one-pounder in a hedge scares you with several well-placed shots before it ‘goes west’ [is destroyed].” Paul De Kruif, in his book about the heroes and heroines of public health titled Men Against Death, published in 1932, wrote: “In 1912 it [Rocky Mountain spotted fever] had sneaked into [Dr. Thomas B.] McClintic ... The Montana doctor, McCray...woke up with bloodshot eyes and an ache in his bones. In ten days McCray had gone West to join McClintic.” Dr. Arthur Howard McCray died in 1919.

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

Nowadays, nobody uses the euphemism “to go West.” Contemporary euphemisms for death include: “He has passed (on).” “We mourn his passing.” “He is no longer with us.” “He has gone away (too soon).” “He is gone.” “We salute the fallen.” “The suspect is deceased.” “He succumbed to the injuries on the way to the hospital,” “He was pronounced,” etc. That last is astonishing, as it simply drops the predicate adjective dead, as though mentioning that word would be impolite.

Sinister euphemisms relate to hygiene. Having taught English in Kosovo, the phrase, “Ethnic cleansing” always makes me shiver. Near Ibrahim Rugova’s grave, a beautiful, peaceful spot high on a hill overlooking Pristina on one side and the countryside on the other, there is a park where mothers play with their babies. Alongside that park, there is a street with villas, and walking down that street I noticed a plaque by a door that informed me the villa was a clinic for the rehabilitation of torture victims... It was as though a cloud had covered the sun; I felt like I had been plunged into darkness. The Fulbright Scholar at the university once said to me, “Why is there a statue of a KLA guy with a Kalashnikov downtown? Why can’t they just get over it and move on?” And all I could think was, “Back home we’re still fighting the Civil War.”

The military is well known for its euphemisms. When a military airplane crashed through the roof of a civilian warehouse, a military spokesman said, “We have secured the armaments package, which will be properly disposed of. Safety is our utmost priority.” An aggressive reporter got him to reluctantly admit he was referring to live rounds and missiles, which thankfully had not gone off.
In the striking documentary film *A Sniper’s War* the following exchange occurs: “What does it mean ‘to do your job’?” / “To get rid of their snipers and gunners, so that our infantry can move ahead.” / “What does it mean ‘get rid ‘ of them?” / “To eliminate. To kill.”

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

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

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

In 1836 Emerson wrote, “supercilious [means] the raising of the eyebrow (Nature, Chapter 4, “Language”). His point was that physical gestures have meaning, along with all the things from the physical and natural world that he mentions in that chapter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Anthropomorphism has been a feature of literature for ages. Anthropomorphic animal stories are as ancient as Aesop and include favorites like *White Fang* by Jack London and “Rikki-Tikki-Tavi” by Rudyard Kipling. People seem predisposed to attribute personalities to certain familiar objects. Traditionally things like a ship could be referred to as *she*. “Shelf life” is a relatively old term, and products have been referred to as a *family* and “first generation / second generation” for quite a long time. But the idea that technology is not only alive but sentient used to be pretty much relegated to science fiction. One thinks of HAL from the 1968 film *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Well, 2001 has come and gone, and almost anything can be animate and sentient nowadays. The first obituary for a non-human being that I ever read was written by Henry Fountain way back in 2010 and appeared in the *New York Times* newspaper under the title, “ABE, Pioneering Robotic Undersea Explorer, Is Dead at 16.” I can still remember how surprised and delighted I was by the conceit.

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

“No!”, “*Roaring Meg* (an English Civil Wars-era mortar) *resides* at Goodrich Castle...” “Recent investigation has found that the annual Great Whirl in the southwest Arabian sea has an average *life span* of 198 days.” “So where did you find this comet, where is it *living*?” “We climb where the avalanche *lives*.” “A cave *breathes*...” Laird Hamilton has said, “Jaws doesn’t *like* a north swell,” and he ought to know. Colin Tudge wrote, “I *met* one in full bloom early one sunny July morning in the Cambridge University Botanic Garden.” Tudge was referring to a handkerchief tree.

An official at the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC, once said, “So the decision was made a number of years ago to take him off display and put him in storage... To have that step forward, just slightly, gives him more of a presence.” He was talking about Neil Armstrong’s *spacesuit*!

I suspect that I am not the only person in the world to have said, “Thank you” at the automatic bank teller machine after withdrawing a little cash, or to secretly feel relieved and grateful when “approved” appears on the machine that reads my debit card, or to mutter, “Okay, okay,” when the bossy self-scanner at the store tells me to make sure I have picked up my change, as if I would ever forget! That same scanner, which ends up saying, “Thank you for shopping at X,” might just be responsible for the sad death of “You’re welcome.” Just the other day the supermarket employ scanning my groceries at the checkout counter muttered “Come on, come on” when the scanner was momentarily unable to read a bar code of a particular item. Her tone was both irritated and imploring. There were people behind me.
In 1989, after a deranged person tried to kill the Treaty Oak in Austin with poison, Texas, thousands of kids addressed letters to the tree with messages like, “We’re sorry this happened, get well soon.”

It is common to give inanimate and non-human objects agency. A common pattern is as follows: “I hadn’t planned to write a book on this topic, but the topic chose me.” The extraordinary Bernard Tomic said, “Tennis chose me. It’s something I never fell in love with.” The last line of Jim Bouton’s baseball book, *Ball Four*, is: “You see, you spend a good piece of your life gripping a baseball, and in the end it turns out that it was the other way around.” In the film *Xiu Xiu, the Sent Down Girl*, Xiu Xiu asks Lao Jin, “Are you really going to spend your entire life raising horses?” and Lao Jin replies, “They raise me, too.” A Japanese saying has it, “With the first glass a man drinks wine, with the second glass the wine drinks the wine, with the third glass the wine drinks the man.” Many of us have been there before! Another proverb like that, common in Saudi Arabia, says,” A miser does not own money; money owns the miser.”

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

See the dictionary entries for *born* and *live*.

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

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

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

In 1870, railroading was the second largest occupation in the US, behind farming. Nowadays both occupations are much diminished. Grist mills used to dot our streams and rivers; these days we might only see their ruins on a hike. Yet “grist for the mill” and “term-paper mill” reference them. Figurative language from the category *train* and *farming & agriculture* continue to be used.

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

Of course, things have changed. Yet everyone still uses and understands language associated with horses. I was lucky as a boy: my grandfather had a horse, and I have fond memories of riding him along country roads and swimming him through the pond below my grandpa’s shack. You have to cling on tightly to the mane of a horse when riding bareback, especially when the horse arises out of the water up a steep bank. Words like *runaway* and *reins* and *bridle* and *saddle* and *gallop* tend to be used figuratively nowadays in a sentence like, “We have got to find a way to reign in galloping inflation,” but for me those words will always have a psychological reality. It can be hard for a small boy to control a very large horse. I know that.

After 1958, more people crossed the Atlantic by *boat* than *plane*, yet figurative language related to boats will always persist: the *spaceship* and *spaceport* pay homage to sailing ships, and our old space shuttles were named for famous ships associated with great explorers: the *Challenger*, *Discovery*, *Atlantis*, and *Endeavour*. Today, when we think of wireless communication we think of connection to the internet, instead of Marconi and wireless telegraphy. But “Internet communication has its roots in the wireless rooms aboard the great ocean liners” as Kat Long has noted. Speed is relative.

Religiosity has had its ups and downs in the US and elsewhere, but figurative language relating to *religion* will never disappear, no matter how secular the world becomes. And every religion, not just Christianity, has contributed words: *fetish* (West Africa), *taboo* (South Seas); *Delphic*, *oracle*, *Pandora’s box*, *soothsayer* (Greek pagan); *karma*, *juggernaut*, *sacred cow*, *guru*, *mantra* (Hindu); *mecca* and *hegira / hejira* (Islam); *kowtow* (Confucianism); *mantra* (Buddhism), etc.
We Americans pride ourselves on our anti-monarchical revolution but we still and forever will link the idea of royalty with the superlative in epithets like “Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul,” “Burger King,” “Mattress King,” and the prom / 4H king and queen. I once attended a country-themed restaurant in Atlanta with family members. My brother-in-law held his young son up to a portrait of Elvis Presley and told him, “Say hello to the King.” We all laughed. Many persons associated with royalty are used figuratively, less obvious ones including whipping boy and handmaiden.

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

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

English morphs and so do affectations and clichés. Following are ones that I have noticed.

2. Old: important Current: salient
3. Old: what they believe Current: their own truth
4. Old: character assassination Current: a callout
5. Old: mob Current: pile-on
6. Old: force, push Current: nudge
7. Old: switch Current: toggle
8. Old: place, area, field Current: space, ecosystem
9. Old: change things Current: move the needle
10. Old: responsibility Current: ownership
11. Old: change, adjust Current: recalibrate
12. Old: closer, more detailed Current: granular
14. Old: I understand... Current: I totally get it...
15. Old: criticize Current: throw shade at
16. Old: He’s egotistical... Current: He’s all about himself
17. Old: Let’s calm down Current: Let’s lower the temperature
18. Old: old-fashioned Current: old school
19. Old: statistic Current: data point
20. Old: talents, qualifications Current: skill set
21. Old: develop Current: unfold
22. Old: support (noun) Current: traction (noun)
23. Old: attached Current: baked in / on
24. Old: turning point Current: inflection point
25. Old: develop, raise, increase Current: grow
26. Old: find one’s way Current: negotiate / navigate
27. Old: a big request Current: a big ask
28. Old: context Current: big picture
29. Old: environment, climate Current: weather
30. Old: spectacular, amazing Current: epic
31. Old: Can you describe... Current: What does that look like?
33. Old: a broadcast Current: a podcast
34. Old: When will it air / launch? Current: When will it drop?
35. Old: a telegram Current: a text
37. Old: What did you learn from... Current: What was your takeaway from...
38. Old: story Current: narrative
39. Old: history Current: story, backstory
40. Old: accept, want Current: embrace
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old</th>
<th>Current</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41. accept</td>
<td>buy into</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42. idea, stereotype, cliché</td>
<td>notion, trope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43. tchotchke</td>
<td>meme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44. raise a family</td>
<td>grow a family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45. opinion</td>
<td>voice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46. reduce, decrease</td>
<td>dial back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47. course</td>
<td>trajectory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48. exists</td>
<td>lives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49. initiate, set off, upset</td>
<td>trigger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50. comprehend something</td>
<td>wrap one’s head around something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51. analyze</td>
<td>unpack / tease out / drill down, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52. analysis</td>
<td>autopsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53. affected by</td>
<td>touched by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54. the Yellow Pages</td>
<td>Google</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55. upstage</td>
<td>photobomb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56. a tip / solution / optimization</td>
<td>a hack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57. mention someone</td>
<td>namecheck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58. delay</td>
<td>kick the can down the road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59. background</td>
<td>back story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60. area / environment</td>
<td>space / terrain / landscape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61. return</td>
<td>circle back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62. change the subject. turn to</td>
<td>switch gears, pivot to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63. reverse</td>
<td>walk back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64. see</td>
<td>witness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65. Has created a lot of attention</td>
<td>Has blown up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66. Tell us about... / Explain...</td>
<td>Walk us through...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67. a debate / discussion</td>
<td>a conversation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68. a description / picture</td>
<td>a visual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69. It looks bad...</td>
<td>That’s not a good look...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70. Having 15 minutes of fame</td>
<td>Having a moment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71. something / fad / craze</td>
<td>a thing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72. aware, awake</td>
<td>woke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73. make something bigger</td>
<td>big (verb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74. increase</td>
<td>ramp up / amplify</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75. Mind your own business</td>
<td>Stay in your own lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76. compartmentalized</td>
<td>siloed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77. contact</td>
<td>reach out to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78. wife / husband / spouse</td>
<td>partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79. in the past</td>
<td>in the rearview mirror, behind us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80. very</td>
<td>big, crazy, insanely, mad, seriously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81. a shrinking violet / pansy</td>
<td>a snowflake / teacup / orchid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82. victim</td>
<td>survivor, conqueror</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83. deformity, abnormality</td>
<td>difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old</td>
<td>Current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84. Old: destroy, bring down</td>
<td>Current: blow up, break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85. Old: a bird’s-eye perspective</td>
<td>Current: a helicopter view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86. Old: resist</td>
<td>Current: stand up to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87. Old: selected, organized, presented</td>
<td>Current: curated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88. Old: made / produced</td>
<td>Current: crafted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89. Old: active</td>
<td>Current: kinetic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90. Old: a secret</td>
<td>Current: a reveal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92. Old: pour fuel on</td>
<td>Current: provide oxygen to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93. Old: from the perspective of...</td>
<td>Current: through the eyes of...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>94. Old: fooled online by an imposter</td>
<td>Current: catfished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95. Old: What’s going to happen next?</td>
<td>Current: What’s the next shoe to drop?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>96. Old: a racing horse</td>
<td>Current: an (equine) athlete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>97. Old: fat, obese (a boxer)</td>
<td>Current: rounded physique, rotund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>98. Old: traditional, roots</td>
<td>Current: Americana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>99. Old: They are doing very well...</td>
<td>Current: They are killing it...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100. Old: reaffirm</td>
<td>Current: double down</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some of the new language updates technology. In the 16th century people might relate a disaster to a *shipwreck*. Nowadays we can speak of a *train wreck* or a *car crash*. In the old days, we would speak of a bird’s eye view. Nowadays, with helicopters and airplanes, we can speak of “a helicopter view” or “the 30,000-foot level.” Is the person who uses *spiral* in an expression like “The tanker attacks sent the price of oil spiraling upward” referring to a hawk rising on a thermal of air or a plane ascending upwards in loops? Does a “wild ride” relate to a horse or some other conveyance like a roller coaster? It can be impossible to know for sure.

Other language, especially allusions, comes from films, reflecting the popularity of Netflix and HBO. Or from food, reflecting the popularity of food shows in America.

Certainly, social trends and political correctness have contributed: *husband, wife,* and finally *spouse* have morphed to *partner*. When a series of horses had to be “put down” due to injuries at an important racetrack, one national commentator referred to those horses as “equine athletes.” The British announcers at the Ruiz-Joshua fight, commentating in the heat of the moment and no doubt in disbelief that their man had lost in a great upset, referred to Ruiz as obese and fat. In print, the BBC described the same boxer as having a rounded physique, or being rotund. The icon Nina Totenberg of National Public Radio (NPR) received criticism for asking if a person was a “nutcase” instead of simply asking if he had a mental illness, or mental disorder, or psychiatric illness.

The new language is starting to have its variations, and morph. *Survivor,* which replaced *victim,* has appeared as *conqueror.* *Climate,* which replaced *situation* or *environment,* has changed to *weather.* The old *shrinking violet* or *pansy* has become an *orchid* (versus a *dandelion*), no doubt for marketing reasons and book sales. The old “bird’s-eye view” has morphed to the “3,000-foot
“perspective,” gained altitude to the “30,000-foot perspective,” and there is no reason why that view can’t go into space. *Increase* changed to *ramp up* and now people seem to prefer *amplify*.

Not everyone gets the new language right. “I’ve read [the Mueller Report], tried to follow it, it’s astonishing what’s going on, and it’s important to try and get our arms around it and figure out what are the steps to take” sounds like the speaker actually wanted to say “wrap our heads around it” (*comprehension & incomprehension*) or perhaps “get a handle on it” (*control & lack of control*) and simply got confused. The same for the person who said, “How do we avoid spinning further fuel into that fire,” where the verb sounds strange. And again for the pundit who said, “He was already on thin footing with the White House.” The normal expression is “on thin ice.” Or “precarious footing.”

All the language reflects our identity as Americans and changes in our society: out with the old, in with the new and youthful (even if we are old), trendy, curated, boutique, artisanal, pop-up, kinetic, fluid, generational, intersectional, commercial. It will all be out of favor in 20 years, replaced by something different yet familiar.
Quotations
There are many wonderful quotes relating to or utilizing metaphor and figurative language. Following are six that are meaningful to me.

1. “Words are signs of natural facts... Right means straight; wrong means twisted. Spirit primarily means wind; transgression, the crossing of a line; supercilious, the raising of the eyebrow. We say the heart to express emotion, the head to denote thought... / An enraged man is a lion, a cunning man is a fox, a firm man is a rock, a learned man is a torch. A lamb is innocence; a snake is subtle spite; flowers express to us the delicate affections. Light and darkness are our familiar expression for knowledge and ignorance; and heat for love. Visible distance behind and before us, is respectively our image of memory and hope. / Who looks upon a river in a meditative hour and is not reminded of the flux of all things? Throw a stone into the stream, and the circles that propagate themselves are the beautiful type of all influence... / [M]an is an analogist... He is placed in the centre... / What is true of proverbs, is true of all fables, parables, and allegories.” (Nature, Chapter 4 (Language), by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1836.)
   • I like the above because in a short space Emerson lists beautifully and concisely so many metaphors. The “circles that propagate themselves” is entered in this dictionary at ripple. A related word is splash. Both words are metaphors for effect that relate to water.

2. “It was doubtless an ingenious idea to call the camel the ship of the desert, but it would hardly lead one far in training that useful beast.” (George Eliot’s The Mill on the Floss.)
   • The above quote reminds us that, while a metaphor identifies something that two things have in common, plenty of things are still different. A ship does not have long eyelashes, has not been branded, nor does it roar, gurgle, bellow, foam from the mouth to the point of producing airborne balloons of saliva, or break your shoulder with a bite if it is aggrieved, or attract camel spiders, or harbor MERS. You can’t milk a ship. Or eat its meat. The Bedu do not refer to a ship as Ata Allah, or “God’s Gift.”

3. “I looked at The Sixteenth Round as puttin’ a letter in a bottle and throwin’ it out over those 36-foot-high walls into the ocean of life, like a bobbin’ bottle, and hoping upon hope that somebody, somehow, someday, will see this bobbin’ bottle in the water, take this bottle up, read my message, and come to help me. And that’s what happened. That’s what happened.” (Rubin “Hurricane” Carter. From “The Hurricane Tapes,” Ep6. Muhammad Ali and Bob Dylan, BBC Sounds.)
   • This strikes me as a particularly beautiful, eloquent and heartfelt use of figurative language, using one extended metaphor.

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

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

• In the above, Elisabeth Moss is speaking about her performance in the film *Her Smell*. I like it because it is a fairly comprehensive litany of clichés relating to commitment & determination. She is an actor, and I respect her commitment. But when it comes to commenting on someone’s determination, I honor the following about a skateboarder: “He had a go-for-it mentality—‘Make it or take me to the hospital.’”

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

• This is a good reminder that language is constantly evolving, and what sounds dated to us today was novel back in the day, just as our new expressions will sound as dated as Funk’s in twenty years.

It is common for people to say a non-figurative word and then pair it with an expression used figuratively, like a translation: “We must oppose him, we must stand up to him.” And it is also common for people to double- and even triple-up on clichés as Elisabeth Moss did in the quote above. Sam(antha) Bruce, speaking about the sorely missed Ben Raemers, once said, “Yeah, when we were on tour, I was like a mother hen to them, I was like big sister...”

And, of course, people often mangle and mix their metaphors, as the commentator in the fourth quote did so hyperactively. To “throw gasoline on the daily media feeding frenzies” creates a very bizarre image in the mind! It would be more natural to throw red meat, or chum, to a feeding frenzy. The political pundit who wrote about the need for a candidate to “kickstart a moribund campaign” also made me laugh heartily. I, personally, would never try to do such a thing! I would try to revive, reinvigorate, resuscitate, or breathe life into that poor campaign. I would only try to kickstart it if it had stalled. But then, to paraphrase Mary Norris, “You can have friends or you can point out their mixed metaphors.”
Synonyms and opposites

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

1. You can launch, roll out, unveil, take the wraps off a product, or drop it.
2. The opposite of tone deaf is... pitch perfect. A person can also strike all the right notes, or have a tin ear.
3. If you achieve something, people might sing your praises, but more than likely your achievement will be unsung.
4. You can face a problem or turn a blind eye to it or look away. You can kick the can down the road or push something (like a decision) down the road. You can tackle a problem or punt or try to run out the clock. Or, you can throw your hands up in the air and engage in handwringing.
5. You can give a hand, lend a hand, or pitch in.
6. You can try to save your neck or your skin.
7. Socially, a person might be a castaway, hermit, leper, outcast, outsider, pariah, or an untouchable, on the fringes of society, in exile, in the wilderness, out of the mainstream, in the shadows, a ghost.
8. A new job might be a plum position or a poisoned chalice.
9. In bad times your life might be on hold, and you might find yourself in purgatory or in limbo. In a drought or a dry spell. You might be adrift, in the doldrums, unable to make headway, going in circles, rudderless. Chasing your tail. Standing still. In a blind alley. Or mired, sidetracked, stuck, stalled, in a rut and spinning your wheels. Going nowhere, or backwards and lagging behind. Losing ground. Stumbling or taking a step backward.
10. Or, you can be on a roll with lots of momentum and traction, advancing, getting ahead, going forward, making headway, gaining ground, leaping or vaulting ahead.
11. Somebody can add fuel to a controversy, pour gasoline on it, fanning it, or provide oxygen for it. Something can become an accelerant.
12. You can be up to your elbows in / neck / eyeballs, in over your head, drowning, buried alive, immersed, enmeshed, entangled, or ensnared in something like debt or some other situation.
13. You can hold your employees feet to the fire or light a fire under them. You can nudge, push, prod, goad, cudgel, hector, or bully them, lean on them, twist their arms, strongarm them, hold a gun to their heads, crack the whip, ride herd over them, etc. Just don’t expect them to attend your birthday party!
14. You can coast, waltz or sail to success.
15. If you are searching for something, you might hit pay dirt or fool’s gold.
16. A division might be the favorite son or stepchild / stepdaughter / orphan of its parent organization.
17. You can say, “That ship has sailed” or “That train has left the station.”
18. You can try and throw somebody off the scent, throw somebody off the trail, or cover your tracks.
19. The president might *bypass*, *go around*, or make an *end run* around congress.
20. In terms of interest and responsibility, something can be *in your wheelhouse*, *in your lane*, or *up your alley*. Or not.
21. You can *bury* or *exorcise the ghosts* or *put something to rest / bed / sleep*. *Bury the hatchet* or *close the book* on something. *Put it behind you, let it go*. *Move on*. Emotional and psychological *wounds* can *heal* or *scab over*.
22. In terms of sports, you can *drop the ball, fumble, miscue, drop the baton, strike out*, or *score an own goal*.
23. If you *pull the plug* on something like a project, it will *go down the drain / pipes / tubes*.
24. You can be the *father, godfather, midwife, architect* or *author* of something like a plan or policy or program.
25. Urban warfare versus warfare in open spaces can be described as *a different animal / a different beast / or a different kettle of fish*.
26. You might find *a place at the table* or *under the tent*. Or you might be left *outside, in the wilderness, frozen out* or *left out in the cold*. 
Lessons and exercises

1. A lesson and exercise might focus on words related to **health & medicine** used figuratively with the meaning of **condition and status**. Write the following on the board: the peace process is **dead and buried**; the economic recovery has been **robust**; businesses are **ailing**; the soccer team is **on life support**; small businesses are **hurting**; earnings have been **anemic**; the economy remains badly **wounded**; the pace of economic growth is **moribund**; reform is **dead**; the economy is **healthy**. Ask students to identify (or underline) the words relating to **health & medicine** and also identify or underline the non-human subjects. Discuss. Ask the students to organize the vocabulary on a cline from **robust** to **dead and buried**.

2. Create a simple matching exercise to illustrate a simple pattern of figurative usage that links problems (**flaws & lack of flaws**, etc.) to **amelioration & renewal**: If there is a **wrinkle** in the plan, then we must **iron it out**. If an idea is **stale**, we need a **fresh** one. If there is a **security hole**, we must **patch it or fill it in**. If our project encounters some **bumps in the road**, we must try to **smooth them out**. If an argument is **shaky**, we had better **support or buttress** it (or it might completely collapse and lie in ruins). If our skills have grown **dull**, we need to **sharpen or hone** them. If a situation is **explosive**, we must **defuse** it. If our **wheels are spinning**, we must find a way to **gain traction** and get unstuck. If the **wheels are turning very slowly**, we will want to find a way to **grease** them. If we are feeling a great **burden**, then we must find a way to **get out from under** it. If our society suffers from a particular **sickness**, we must find a **cure or remedy** for it, etc.

3. Words and phrases for **increase & decrease** include: rise; explode; shoot up; soar; grow; skyrocket; jump; go / shoot through the roof; peak, and sky-high. Words for decrease include: plummet; dip; slide; drop; plunge; fall; tumble; and sink. The verbs **plateau** and **level off** are also usefully taught to talk about things that can be represented on graphs. We commonly use these words and phrases when we talk about prices, numbers, rates, ages and levels. These words make a good simple category exercise. Write the words and phrases in alphabetical order on the board and ask students to categorize them as “increase” or “decrease.” If your classroom has a smartboard with “Vortex” software, create two vortices labeled “increase” and “decrease” and call on a student to slide each word into the correct vortex. My students in Saudi Arabia liked Vortex exercises, because if the student standing in front of the classroom at the board slid a word to the wrong vortex, it was spit out to his consternation and the delight of the other students. Ask students about important rates, prices and ages: the crime rate; the price of bread and medicine; the age of first marriage, etc. Are they low, high or sky high / through the roof? How have they changed over time? How do they compare with other countries or geographical areas?

4. To focus on all the ways to talk about the **future**, including the idea that the future is a **container**, ask students to select a piece of paper from a container. The piece of paper would be like the piece of paper inside a fortune cookie. Each student would get a little message about what lies **in** his future, what is **ahead** for him, what is **on his horizon**,
is down the road, the fate that is approaching him. This exercise can lend itself to humor. In some context and cultures, of course, such an exercise would not be appropriate.

5. The following is a simple fill-in-the-blank exercise that focuses on some of the figurative language associated with fire: extinguish (verb); conflagration (noun); die out (verb); spark (noun); die down (verb); ashes (noun). “The region is a tinderbox, and it will only take a _____ to set the whole area on fire. The result will be a _____ that will burn out of control and that no force, not even United Nations Peacekeepers, will be able to _____. The fire will eventually _____, but I doubt it will ever completely _____. We can only hope something positive will eventually arise from the _____.”

6. A matching exercise focusing on synonyms and antonyms that reflects natural language use follows: “So people were able to keep it under wraps.” “Yes, they covered it up, is what they did.” / “So you lost your patience.” “Yeah, I couldn’t hold my horses.” / “You weren’t making any progress.” “No, we were just spinning our wheels.” / “Did he betray you?” “Yeah, he threw me under the bus / stabbed me in the back.” / “Was the film boring?” “Yeah, it was a big yawn.” / “Did the announcement surprise people?” “Yeah, it raised eyebrows.”
To the ESL / EFL teacher

1. Because figurative language is such an integral part of common, everyday language, we EFL / ESL teachers should teach the terms literal and figurative at the beginning level and say them at least as often as we say noun, verb, adjective, and adverb in our classrooms. I don’t use the terms metaphor or idiom, because the former is so closely attached to literary studies and cognitive linguistics, and the latter is associated with dictionaries of idioms that include expressions like “It’s raining cats and dog” and seem to imply that figurative language is somehow separate or supplementary to “real” language. To explain figurative usage to our students, we can use the same language that we teach them: “like,” “as,” “resemble,” “similar to,” “analogous to,” “suggests,” “equivalent of,” “has the shape of,” “comparison,” “has the role of,” “acts as a,” etc.

2. We teachers should get in the habit of looking at the dictionary entry for each vocabulary item we teach. I must confess this is advice I didn’t always take during my career. In most dictionaries, the first sense of a word is literal, and the second or further senses are usually figurative, on the principle of metaphorical extension. The metaphoric extensions are not always obvious to students, especially in curriculums that teach only the literal meanings of words. It is the case that for many words students will encounter a figurative sense far more often than the literal sense. Different senses reinforce the meaning of the first sense and recycle the word in a different context, thus increasing the chances the student will acquire and use the word. “Extra” senses can also provide real communicative utility. For example, a simple word like path can allow us and our students to talk about conduct, easiness and difficulty, and the future, not simply a walk from point A to point B.

3. Just about every part of speech can be used figuratively: nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, and prepositions, even interjections. Seals are a magnet for sharks. He killed the proposal. She greeted me warmly. It was a stinging rebuke. I am with you. Her performance wowed me.

4. As English teachers, we all know the importance of collocation in vocabulary teaching. And as Susan Hunston has said, “metaphoric uses are distinguished by collocation.” That is why every word or phrase in the thesaurus is recorded in the dictionary of collocations. Often there is a collocating preposition. Or the phrase is pre-modified by a classifying adjective: a political firestorm; financial doping in soccer; an astronomical rate, a stellar recede, etc. Most curriculums do a poor job of presenting classifying modifiers. When read means fictive communication, and the thing being read is a measuring device, then the object is usually a number: My watch read 1:17 P.M; My altimeter read 27,500 feet; the radar read 31,500 (altitude of plane). We can mention this in our classrooms every time we introduce a word for a gadget with a dial. When see or find are used for fictive witnessing, they are often preceded by a time expression or date: “23 May saw over 250 climbers trying to summit Mount Everest” or “August 12 found the travelers in Rome.” Again, we can mention this usage during our regular lessons on dates and times.

5. Prepositions. In our dictionaries, a preposition’s first sense is always spatial, and that is how we generally teach it. Metaphoric extensions are listed after the first sense. Three prepositions relate to allegiance, support & betrayal: “I am for the measure. We stand
behind the new law. I am with you in your attempts to change things.” When it comes to **hierarchy**, a person can be **above** or **below** another person. To see a list of prepositions and their non-spatial meanings, look in the glossary under **prep, adv, adj, particle**. Prepositions are a big problem both in teaching and learning, and the more help we can give our students, the better.

6. As noted above, we tend to think of the past, present and future as grammar. But the future can also relate to direction and movement or vocabulary and expressions like **fossil, dinosaur, time capsule, those days, back in the day, nowadays, in the coming days, tomorrow, horizon and crystal ball**. View **future and past & present** in the glossary to see all the possibilities. Many of them relate to movement. These words and expression can be included in the appropriate grammar lessons.

7. Don’t be afraid to think about and teach grammatical metaphor, which I mentioned above. Grammatical metaphor simply provides alternatives to the structures we already teach. You can say, “There is a lamp in the corner.” But you can also say, “A lamp stands in the corner.” Offer both choices. You can say, “We walked to town along the road” but you can also say, “The road took us to town.” You can say, “I got home in early May,” but you can also say, “Early May saw me back home.” You can say, “I had a lot of problems,” but you can also say, “I encountered a lot of problems” or “I was met with a lot of problems.” We tend to teach the former only and neglect the latter.

8. When you teach a “bland” verb, try to think of a synonym that is figurative: Can you help me? Can you lend a hand? / What did you find? What did you dig up? / He betrayed me. He stabbed me in the back, he threw me under the bus. / Be patient. Hold your horses. / I support you. I am with you, I stand with you, I stand behind you, I will back you up, I’ve got your back. / I understand. I see. I get it. / You must resist him. You must stand up to him. You must take him on. Most of the figurative language is easy to explain and can be pantomimed.

9. Never miss a chance to add value to a word. Is it also a shape? What are its parts? Is it a part of a proper noun? A geographical feature? The name of a company or product? Is there a euphemism for it? Does the word have an interesting history (etymology)? Can you use the word as a springboard for a bit of content?

10. As English teachers, we know all about teaching parts-wholes. And those parts are often figurative. A chair has legs and a back, a mouth has a roof, a book has a spine. A bed has a head and a foot. A mountain has foothills. Whole-parts like these are the basis of simple riddles we learn as children: I have legs but can’t run. I have a back, but I can’t bend. What am I?”

11. We always teach **sweet, sour, bitter and salty** in a set relating to the taste of such things as sugar, lemons, coffee and salt. And this vocabulary is often a part of a lesson on predicate verbs and adjectives. But all four words can relate to **personality & character**. I always mentioned this to my students in Saudi Arabia, and they were always amused by it.

12. Try to think of and include non-human subjects and objects for the words you teach. A car / Winter is approaching. She / The altimeter read... He / This case called out for justice. He dove into the water / his studies. Or, the opposite: I’m allergic to penicillin / people who think they know it all.
13. Clines are always useful for organizing vocabulary. In “Lessons and exercises” above, the first lesson involves organizing words relating to health & medicine on a cline. A similar lesson could be given based on words relating to temperature that relate to emotion. Our curriculums are good at teaching hot, warm, and cold. Less good at teaching tepid, or lukewarm, or combinations like boiling-hot and freezing-cold.

14. An easy lesson is to simply think of an object you and your students might be interested in. For example, students studying academic English would be very interested in words and expressions related to analysis, interpretation & explanation. Some teachers are interested in the expression of feeling, emotion & effect, and they will find a comprehensive listing of such language in the glossary. My military students in Saudi Arabia—the home of the Arabian horse—always enjoyed idioms associated with the horse, and I was also pleased to discover many of them shared my interest in boxing. Of course, they had their Muslim favorites! Nothing could be so basic to all people as the hand, so try doing a lesson just devoted to that. Meanings range from help & assistance to oppression. And it is easy to pantomime expressions like hand out and give / lend a hand and have the upper / whip hand. That would make a nice lesson in a place like Kosovo, where you might have no materials, no support, and your classroom is a café where your students—poor as they are—will insist on paying for your coffee. You want to give something meaningful to students like that!

15. Teach expressions related to gesture. I went to the director to get his approval and he gave me the thumbs up. / I didn’t realize that, thank you for opening my eyes. / That film bored me, it was a big yawn. Gestures and physical movements are easy to show in class, and pairs like these make easy matching exercises.

16. As mentioned above, a name for a person like pioneer, acolyte, steward, leper, butcher, warrior and clown is often used figuratively. You can find a list at person in this work. It requires very little grammar at all to say, “You are a bully!” Or, “You are a big bully!” Or, “You are such a bully! and “Why are you (such) a bully?” Change the subject to a non-human subject and add a category noun and you get, “And your country is a regional bully.” Use the negative imperative + noun pattern and you get, “Don’t be a bully!” Use stop + being + noun and you have “Stop being a bully!” Figurative language, used with the most basic grammar, is truly a communicative force multiplier. Suddenly, you can talk about international politics.

17. Use analogies. I usually introduce them in the following form: Blood is to the body as X is to a machine. The center is to a circle as X is to a hurricane. Spring is to a young man as X is to an old man. A period of time is to the life of a man as X is to a book. A ship is to the sea as X is to the desert. When students give answers to analogies like these, even when they gave me the anticipated answer, I always ask them to explain their answers using complete sentences. Or, you can use the frame, “If... (then).” One attested example is, “If Buterin... is a kind of blockchain messiah, Lubin is its Paul...” (“The Stuff Dreams Are Made Of” by Nick Paumgarten, The New Yorker, October 22, 2018.) Yet another variation is the form, “Oman was to Egypt as Vietnam was to the US.” Analogies like these can be used at the most basic level and students find them novel and interesting.

18. Teachers can incorporate figurative language into routine classroom language. If your students get too noisy, you can say, “Hey, turn down the volume!” or “Lower the...
temperature!” or “Cool down” or “Keep cool!” or “Let’s dial it back!” or “Don’t be such a hothead!” If a student becomes too impatient, you can say, “Hold your horses!” Instead of asking if a student understands or not, you might ask, “Are you in the dark?” You can use lexicalized gestures to praise: “I salute you,” “I applaud you,” “I take my cap off to you.” When a student’s feelings get hurt, you can say, “A military man needs thick skin!” Students tend to hear, note, and acquire such figurative language, especially if it is repeated day after day. More importantly, though, it gives the figurative nature of language its due.

19. Feel free to say a little bit about the literal meaning for those words we use figuratively more often than we use literally. If you ever teach or explain the figurative use of castaway, for example, you might spend a few minutes telling your students about those actual poor wretches on Tromelin Island in the Indian Ocean. At the entry for scuttle I mention two instances where entire fleets of ships were scuttled. Below the entry for amok in the dictionary of collocations in this work is a quote from The Malay Archipelago by Alfred Russel Wallace about that practice. Below the entry for earthquake (effect) is a rather long entry from the same author, which will make those of us who have never experienced an earthquake think about how incredibly destabilizing they can be. In the entry for whirlwind is an eyewitness account of a black buran experienced in Lop Nur, Xinjiang, by Sven Hedin. At blizzard, I have included a short quote from V.K. Arseniev and Dersu about an actual blizzard, or purga. Below the entry for pioneer (person) in the dictionary, I note Rudyard Kipling’s stirring poem “The Explorer.” There will always be a few students who will find that poem on the internet nowadays and read it, based on your recommendation.

20. Take a page from the quote from Emerson above and use the frames he uses to get your students thinking about metaphor and even create new ones. “Right means...; wrong means...; the crossing of a line means...; we say heart to express... ; a cunning man is...; attention is...; an effect is... Words and phrases for that last are entered in the category effect. They remind us than an effect is often thought of as a wave in a medium: ripples as in water, with the related word splash; waves in the air like a shock wave; and sound waves like reverberation and repercussion. That is the reason for expressions like: “His surprise resignation caused ripples / shock waves / reverberations around the world.”

21. Get students to notice language use in longer passages of speech or text. Vocabulary choices are often predictable. For example, a crime story or crime podcast is bound to have words based on hunting and searching & discovery. Many of those words will be figurative. Articles about famous people will usually have language, both literal and figurative, relating to importance & significance.

22. Here’s a good idea to make the figurative and the literal real to your students within the four walls of your classroom. First, consult the category of books & reading in the thesaurus of this work. Write “literal” on one side of the board, “figurative” on the other, hold up a book, and go to work. There will be at least 24 literal and figurative pairs for you to talk about with your students. The dictionary of collocations will give you attested examples of use and help you with the collocations. If you have a flair for the dramatic and a perfect sense of timing, as you no doubt do, because you are a teacher, you will save “close the book” with its meaning of reconciliation, resolution & conclusion for the end, the bell, the smiles, and the break.
The dictionary of collocations

A

ablaze (set something ablaze)

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

initiation: fire

abort (verb)

aborted the attack
  President Trump ~ at the last moment
aborted the (test) launch
  a technical snag~ (satellite rocket)

starting, going, continuing & ending: baby / birth / health & medicine

about (character)

about clothes, cars, or fashion
  he was not ~, but the love of the game (Larry Bird)

identity & nature: prep, adv, adj, particle
  character & personality: prep, adv, adj, particle

about-face (in an about-face)

in an about face
  ~, the President abandoned his plan to…
in an about face from a year ago
  ~, Congress voted to expand…
in an embarrassing about face
  ~, officials acknowledged that…

reversal: direction / military

about-face (other)

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

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

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

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

about face with regard to
  he has done an ~ Israel

abrupt about-face

the admission was an ~

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

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

ideological about-face
  the literature of ~ includes…

about-face came
  his ~ after…

did an about-face
  the military ~

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

♦ “Ready front!” “Present arms!” “Order, arms!” “Forward, march!”
  “Column halt!” “About face!” (Military commands.)

reversal: direction / military

about-turn (noun)

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

reversal: direction

above (above the fray, etc.)

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

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: prep, adv, adj, particle

behavior: direction

above (above the law, etc.)

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

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

aboveboard

aboveboard
  everything I did was ~

♦ This could come from the world of cards, and its opposite would be underhanded.

subterfuge: cards / direction

behavior: direction

abrasive (adjective)

abrasive and annoying
  he is ~

brilliant and abrasive (m)
  a ~ engineer named…
character & personality: sensation

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

absorb (a country, etc.)

absorbed Kyrgyzstan
Imperial Russia ~ and its nomadic tribes

ability to absorb
their language's ~ new words (German)

absorption & immersion: verb / water

absorb (books, culture, etc.)

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

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

absorbed a gothic sensibility
he ~ which would imprint itself on his work

absorbed (Islamic) principles and traditions
the young prince ~

absorption & immersion: verb / water

absorb in Saudi Arabia

Qatar might well have been ~ (history)

absorbed by the society
they were ~ they invaded (Mongols)

absorbed into the Soviet Union

absorbed (punishment, etc.)

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

absorbed a lot of punishment
he ~ in the last round (a boxer)

absorption & immersion: verb / water

absorbed

absorbed into Saudi Arabia
Qatar might well have been ~ (history)

absorbed by the society
they were ~ they invaded (Mongols)

forcibly absorbed
the three Baltic republics were ~ into the Soviet Union

absorbed

absorbed into Saudi Arabia
Qatar might well have been ~ (history)

absorbed by the society
they were ~ they invaded (Mongols)

forcibly absorbed
the three Baltic republics were ~ into the Soviet Union

abuzz (activity)

abuzz with warnings
a nervous Muslim world is ~ of a threat from the West

had people abuzz
the news ~ this morning (politics)

activity: animal / insect / sound

abyss (noun)

financial abyss
there seems to be no way out of this ~

on the brink of a (sectarian) abyss
the country is ~ (protests)

fall into an abyss
women ~, and they can't get out (eating disorders)

plunged into a (political) abyss
the country ~ after…

plunges (further) into the abyss
as Greece's blighted economy ~

pulled the (financial) system back from the abyss
the government ~

sliding into the abyss
the country is ~ (economy)

teeering towards the abyss
the city is ~ of bankruptcy

worked his way out of the abyss
he ~ of crime and hopelessness

♦

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

destruction: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

accelerant (noun)

accelerant
Twitter is the ~ for so many to spew outrage

increase & decrease: fire

accelerate (verb)

accelerate learning
pupils use pedal power to ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb

increase & decrease: movement / verb

speed: movement / verb

ace (noun)

ace
it was time for me to bring out my ~

ace in the hole
my ~ is that I can…

the fear card is his ~ (national security)

our nuclear arsenal is our ~

strength & weakness: cards / gambling

Achilles' heel (noun)

Achilles' heel
security was our ~ (US AID project in Afghanistan)

Achilles' heel of 3-D TV
clunky glasses were the ~ (remedi)

Achilles' heel of the system
the ~ lies…

Achilles' heel of the West
the Persian Gulf is the ~ (oil and Iran)
Achilles heel for Chelsea
this is the ~—marking in the box (soccer)

angioplasty's Achilles' heel
the problem is ~ (regrowth of tissue)

company's Achilles' heel
the ~ is that…

skiers' Achilles' heel
the knees are the ~

strength & weakness: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey
protection & lack of protection: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

acid (acid debate, etc.)

acid asides
she is famous for her ~ (a comic)

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

acid debate
the controversy has sparked ~ (religion)

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

acid-tongued

acid-tongued (m)
the ~ comedian (Groucho Marx)

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

acolyte (noun)

acolyte of big business
he is an ~ and corporate greed

acolytes of (US) capitalism
he is like most ~

Obama acolyte
he is an ~ who… (politics)

tones of an acolyte
he described her in ~

swarmed by (young) acolytes
the was ~ (a film director)

enthusiasm: person / religion
person: religion

acrobatics (noun)

acrobatic acrobatics
the artificiality and awkwardness of the ~ (LGBTTIQQ2SA)

difficulty, easiness & effort: circus

act (insincere show)

beneath their ~ they were…(young soldiers)
maturity act
kids put on this ~ (high school)
own act
they came to believe too much in their ~ (Hitler, etc.)
hard-to-get act
ditch the ~ (relationships)
ditch the (hard-to-get) act
you should ~

keep up the act
how long can he ~

put on an act
con artists know how to ~

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

performance / role: theater

act (performance)
circus act
he's a ~ and he's killing boxing

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

balancing act
setting limits, encouraging independence is a real ~
juggling act
trying to build a team is a hard ~ (basketball)
difficult act
the King's got a lot more ~ than in the last decade
tough act
their father is a ~ to follow

performance / role: theater

act (clean up one's act)
cleaned up its act
the CIA director said the company had ~ (security)
the city has clamped down on violence and ~
in the 1990s, Manhattan ~
cleaned up her act
she checked herself into rehab, then ~
we thought she had ~, but… (athlete)
clean up your act
you need to ~
amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb
behavior: hygiene / verb

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

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

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

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

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

development: theater
addict (chess addict, etc.)

chess addicts
the Internet is great for ~

movie addict
an adolescent ~

TV addict
I love TV. I’m a total ~
crossword puzzle addict
he is a ~
tanning addict
tanning beds spawned a generation of ~s

bone fishing addict
hard-core yachtsmen and ~s

total (TV) addict
I love TV, I’m a ~
generation of (tanning) addicts
tanning beds spawned a ~

enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine
addicted (enthusiasm)

addicted to his sport
he was so ~ that he rarely spent a weekend indoors
addicted to fly fishing
my friend and I were ~ for wild brook trout

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

address (verb)
addressed more specific rumors
she ~ as well (cold case)

fictive communication: speech / verb
add up (verb)
add up
her story didn’t ~

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

analysis, interpretation & explanation: number
adhere (adhere to something)
adhere to
the have a code that they ~, blue silence (cops)
adhere to the norms
countries should strictly ~ of international law

attachment: materials & substances / verb
adrift

adrift in the new multiparty sea
politicians, ~, now needed campaign funds

seemed adrift
he ~ without the army for structure (troubled soldier)

spent years adrift
they had ~ in their diaspora (Somalis in Lewistown)

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

adult (person)

adults in the room
the cypherpunk kids versus the ~

e.xperience: person

advance (verb)

advanced in jumps
his career ~

advanced with giant steps
nuclear science has ~

advanced from guarded to good condition
the twins ~ (operation)

advance their cause through leadership
people who ~ or example

advance the cause
~ of freedom in Africa (US)

advance medicine
the goal of the partnership is to ~, lower costs

advance our (own negotiating) position
as we ~

advance (cancer) research

advanced rapidly
mine technology ~ after World War II

career advanced
his ~ in jumps

science has advanced
nuclear ~ with giant steps

efforts to advance
~ pain research

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb

advances in medicine
the 20th century saw great ~

breathtaking advance
this is a ~ (legislative act)

great advance
anesthesia was a ~ in surgery

major advance
US physicians made another ~ in endocrinology

medical advance
animal testing has led to many ~s

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement

aegis (noun)

under his aegis
he insists the newspaper is not ~

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

protection & lack of protection: military / weapon

Aegis Combat System

Aegis Combat System
the ~ protects ships

proper name: military / weapon

afford (verb)

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

afford to fall
we can't ~ further behind

afford to lose
the President cannot ~ Iraq

afford to remain
we cannot ~ passive spectators to such acts…

afford another Somalia
the UN cannot ~

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

cost & benefit: money / verb

afloat

stay afloat
Iran can ~ without Western investment
he struggled to ~ (low-paying job)
he got us disaster relief to ~ (politician)

keep the studio afloat
sentiment alone cannot ~ (MGM / debt woes)

keeping the regime afloat
oil is ~

stay afloat
the economy is struggling to ~

survival, persistence & endurance: water

afterglow (in the afterglow)

in the afterglow
~ that follows the performance, the audience lingers
in the afterglow of another championship
a decade later, ~, he said… (an athlete)
in the afterglow of (Obama's) election
she found it easier to run ~ (a politician)
in the afterglow of his (first big) role
he moved into the Chateau Marmont ~ (L.A. actor)
in the afterglow of our (rafting) trip
we relaxed and drank wine ~
in the (mellowing) of victory
~, they don't seem so fierce (elected women)
in the afterglow of their Tony wins
the films received increased business ~
basking in the afterglow
we're still ~ of the president's (marvelous) speech
♦ A full-page print ad for the Subaru Legacy asks the question, "Can a drive have an afterglow?" In the foreground is the sedan, parked on a scenic overlook. In the background is a dramatic vista of the sea and clouds just after sunset. Of course, the beautiful lingering light is the actual afterglow.

feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / sky
afterglow (other)
afterglow of those visits
the ~ has never worn off (celebrity visits restaurant)
afterglow of victory
the ~ was brief (political reformers)
post-World Cup afterglow
how will the ~ be reflected in attendance (US soccer)
happiness and afterglow
the party is flushed with ~ (elections)
feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / sky
aftershock (noun)
aftershocks from 9/11
the ~ forced the company to cuts jobs nationwide (airline)
aftershocks from the (shareholder) revolt
the ~ will be felt across the business world
political aftershocks
the ~ of the 2004 tsunami… (Sri Lanka)
feel the aftershocks
we will ~ of the financial crisis for a long time

amount & effect: earthquake
feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake
effect: earthquake
against (opposition)
against everything
I am ~ he stands for (politics)
against it

the government has to get behind it and the Prime Minister is ~ (a proposal)
allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle
resistance, opposition & defeat: prep, adv, adj, particle
against (up against)
up against
this is what cities are ~ (hacked for ransom)
up against a history
we were ~ of social injustice (prosecuting O.J. Simpson)
obstacles & impedance: prep, adv, adj, particle
age (come of age)
come of age
will this be the year they ~ (soccer team in Champions League)
growth & development: death & life
agile (adjective)
agile development
~, means constantly making small improvements
agile and adaptive
government must be ~ (terrorism)
agile and responsive
agile and responsive
government must become more ~ to business
ideologically agile
he was brilliant, funny, and ~ (a politician)
lean and agile
the company is ~
lean, agile and focused
the company is ~ on building better cars
pragmatic and agile
we must be ~ in pursuit of human rights (diplomacy)
smaller, (more) agile and innovative (m)
~, will survive
remains (as) agile (as ever)
her mind ~

ability & lack of ability: body
agility (noun)
agility
~, requires quick-minded, flexible leaders (military)
mental agility (m)
~, skills include physical toughness and ~ (military)
tactical agility
~, is first of all a mental state (military)
ability & lack of ability: body
aground (run aground)
run aground
the promises have ~ on the shoals of changing sex ratios
relationship can run aground
the author-biographer ~
♦ The ship ran aground, broke in two, and began leaking oil.
failure, accident & impairment: boat / verb
Aha! (Aha! moment)
"Aha!" moment
she says that she had an ~ in 2005 (administrator)
Aha! instant
the ~ in cognitive science, the Eureka moment...
consciousness & awareness: speech
comprehension & incomprehension: speech
ahead (future)
ahead of him
he has a great future ~ (athlete)
ahead of us
the single most important task we have ~
we've got a good deal of work ~
ahead for you and your baby
you probably have questions about what is ~
challenges ahead
prepare students for the ~ (military school)
choices ahead
he understands the hard ~ (a politician)
days ahead
there are better ~
road ahead
no one knows what lies on the ~ (course of war)
STORMS AHEAD
~ (newspaper)
task ahead
the ~ for engineers and scientists is to…
book ahead
its good to ~ (camping reservations)
lie ahead
your best days ~
our best days ~
lies ahead
no one knows what ~
I don't know what ~
we are ready for the struggle that ~ (war)
look ahead
let's ~ to the future
looking ahead
~. clouds appear on the horizon (economy)
plan ahead
it's good to ~
future: direction / journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle
ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.)
ahead of his times
he was ~ (a comedian)
ahead of schedule
we are ~
get ahead of the conversation
I'm not going to ~ that will take place (speculation)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
ahead (get ahead, etc.)
far ahead
rich countries are ~ of poor ones in adapting to warming
forging ahead
other countries are ~ (aquaculture)
get ahead
never pass up an opportunity to ~
marching ahead
the science is ~ (genetic tests)
move ahead
mentally ill people struggle to ~ in their lives
we must ~ into the future
moving ahead
his friends were ~ while he was standing still
pressing ahead
we are ~ in our efforts (government official)
push ahead
we are trying to ~
surging ahead
Southeast Asia is ~ (aquaculture)
♦ Don't get mad, don't get even, get ahead.
progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle
ahead (competition)
ahead of those
Swedish living standards are way ~ in the US
miles ahead
it was ~ of every similar application
way ahead
Swedish living standards are ~ of those in the US
come out ahead
I'm going to beat him, I'll ~ (mixed-martial arts)
puts them ahead
their strategy ~ of other banks

competition: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle

ahead (go ahead, etc.)
moved ahead
he cautiously ~ with privatization
pressing ahead
the Russians are ~ with fake social media accounts
went ahead
the program ~ and was deemed a success

starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb

ail ing (adjective)
ail ing
businesses are ~ because of government regulation
AILING economy
companies are feeling the effects of the ~
the government is pumping money into the ~
AILING Macs
she tends to ~ (tech worker)
AILING (housing) market
ending the deduction could cripple an already ~

condition & status: health & medicine

aim (verb)
aim to please
we ~ (a store motto)
aiming for
and that’s what we’re ~ (making it easy for shoppers)
aimed for a Friday night liftoff
the space agency ~
aim for a fun, less sanitized view
reenactors ~ of the Old West

wants, needs, hopes & goals: verb / weapon

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

AIMS of the campaign
ridding Iraq of WMD is one of the main ~

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

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

aim of the symposium

the broad ~ was to report on and discuss the…

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

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

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

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

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

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

terrorists’ aim
if the ~ was to…

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

stated aim
it has the ~ of overthrowing the government

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

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

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

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

strategic aim
application of military capability in support of ~s

traditional aim
the Tibetan nomads’ ~ of maximizing herd size

ultimate aim
his ~ is to…

unselfish aim
most seem motivated by ~s

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

several aims
President Clinton and his advisers had ~

achieve this aim
to ~, we will have to…

wants, needs, hopes & goals: weapon

aim (take aim at something)
take aim at (pretty much every) race
his monologues ~ he can
took aim at America
other veterans of the Russian-Afghan war ~
taking dead aim
  his company is ~ at… (a competitor)

**target: verb / weapon**

**aimed**

aimed at Muslims
  a string of attacks by extremist Christians ~
aimed (specifically) at children
  products ~
aimed at the (US) military
  protest ~ have waxed and waned (S. Korea)
aimed at the superstitious
  attention-grabbing advertisements ~ (muti)
aimed at abortion clinics and their workers
  attacks ~ (US)
aimed at Pakistan's foreign community
  an assault ~ (on a church)
aimed at modernizing
  he announced a series of reforms ~ the bureau
aimed at preventing
  mosquito-control programs ~ further cases (West Nile)
aimed at punishing
  laws ~ habitual criminals
aimed at reducing
  regulations ~ noise pollution

**target: weapon**

**air (appearance)**

air of authority
  you'll carry an ~
air of indifference
  she has a calculated ~ (teen girl)
air of invincibility
  America's ~ is gone (international basketball)
air of make-believe
  diplomacy can have an ~ (protocol, etc.)
air of respectability
  toy drives give bikers an ~
air of sophistication
  she exudes an ~
air of superiority
  he detected an ~
arrogant air
  he had a preppie, ~ about him
carry an air
  you'll ~ of authority
exudes an air
  she ~ of sophistication

**appearance: air / atmosphere**

**air (environment)**

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

**environment: air / atmosphere**

**identity & nature: air / atmosphere**

**air (in the air)**

in the air
  change was ~ (the law)
  spring is ~
  war is ~
  the threat of litigation was always ~ (corporation)
anger in the air
  there is much ~ (Xinjiang during the Olympics)
electricity in the air
  there is a new ~ (after combat and death)
fear in the air
  with the general ~, people are paying off debt, not buying

**environment: air / atmosphere**

**air (up in the air)**

up in the air
  the school year ended with her plans ~
  where things go from here is quite honestly ~
up in the air whether
  it’s still ~… (making a decision)
still up in the air
  her quest to land an internship is ~
  when they can return to their homes is ~ (wildfires)
remains up in the air
  the reason for the Moon Illusion ~

**certainty & uncertainty: air / atmosphere**

**air (breath of fresh air)**

breath of fresh air
  she's a ~ (politician)
  the blog is a ~ (field notes from scientists)
  his lay status is a ~ (new college president)
  I thought he was a ~, but it turns out he is an elitist
breath of fresh air for the city
  the mayor has been a ~
breath of fresh air after the scandal
  he seemed to be a ~ of Watergate (politics)
unexpected breath of fresh air
  their designs were an ~ (fashion show)
brings a breath of fresh air to the magazine
she ~ (new editor)

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

**amelioration & renewal: air / atmosphere / wind**

**air (hot air)**

hot air
- a plan without action is ~
- global warming is ~ (an opinion)

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

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

full of hot air
- he's ~ (a politician)

**substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere**

**air (into thin air)**

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

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

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

**air (out of thin air)**

appeared out of thin air
- investors have ~

come out of thin air
- ideas just don't ~ (nothingness)

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

create credit out of thin air
- the Federal Reserve can ~

create profit out of thin air
- Wall Street can ~

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

**origin: air / atmosphere / color / sky**

**air (clear the air)**

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

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

**amelioration & renewal: air / atmosphere / verb**

**airtight (adjective)**

airtight alibi
- his lawyers say he has an ~

prosecutors believe they have an ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere**

**alarm (feeling)**

alarm
- ~ as dump sites fill up and overflow

alarm over the (rotten-egg) odor

alarm over (gun) violence

alarm about (the military's) conduct
- the case raises ~ in Iraq (atrocity)

rising alarm
- ~ over gun violence

reason for alarm
- stay calm, there is no ~
- so there was plenty of ~

raises alarm
- the case ~ about the military's conduct in Iraq

**feeling, emotion & effect: sound**

**alarm (warning)**

sounded alarms
- Doctors Without Borders ~ (famine in Niger)

sounding the alarm
- groups have been ~ about the Arab drug problem

**warning: sound**

**albatross (noun)**

albatross of debt
- the ~ he had been dealing with (a politician)

**affliction: allusion / animal / bird**

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

Alcatraz of the Rockies
- ADX Florence in Colorado, sometimes called the ~

Alcatraz of the South
- Angola, the ~ (prison bordered on 3 sides by Mississippi)

**punishment & recrimination: place / epithet / justice**

epithet: justice

**alight (activity)**

alight with posts
- social networking sites are ~ from…

alight with (conspiracy) theories
- the blogosphere is ~

+ The night sky can be alight with stars. The forest across the river can be alight with fireflies.

**activity: light & dark**

**alight (fire)**

set the region alight
conflicts could ~ (Caucasus)

**initiation: fire**

**alive (status)**

alive
- my business is ~, but not thriving
still alive
- the talks are ~ (negotiations)
- the two teams are ~ in the playoffs (sports)
very much alive
- jazz is ~, in Paris…
stay alive
- it's tough to ~ in today's economy (a business)

**condition & status: death & life**

starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life

**alive (keep something alive)**

alive (keep something alive)
- keep awareness alive
  - the need to ~ (of the Holocaust)
- keep history alive
  - part of our mission is to ~ (Trail of Tears)
- keep hope alive
  - doctors have a duty to ~
- kept the initiative alive
  - the administration has ~
- keep memory alive
  - portraits can ~
- keep romance alive
  - it's important to ~ (in a marriage)
- keep the spark alive
  - the dreams of what were ahead helped ~ for me (love)
- keep the tradition alive
  - he does his part to ~ (sumo in Brazil)

**survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb**

**allergic (adjective)**

allergic to (small) boats
- for those ~ in stormy seas…
allergic to the concept
- economists are ~ of fairness (reform)
allergic to him
- I'm ~ (the two don't get along)

**avoidance & separation: health & medicine**

**allergy (noun)**

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

**avoidance & separation: health & medicine**

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

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

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

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

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

**proper name: route**

route: epithet

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

Bat Alley
- bats have been seen flying down ~ (passage in a cave)
Shark Alley
  a wave rolled along an area known as ~ (Farallones)

proper name: route
route: epithet / infrastructure
alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.)

Cyclone Alley
  Bangladesh sits on "~"

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

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

iceberg alley
  the Bonavista peninsula is the province’s so-called "~" it’s been a busy season in ~ (Newfoundland and Labrador)

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

tornado alley
  spring in ~ (U.S.)

Tornado Alley
  ~ runs from Texas through Oklahoma and Kansas

proper name: route
route: epithet
epithet: infrastructure
alley (Death Alley, etc.)

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

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

proper name: route
route: epithet
alley (Silicon Alley)

Silicon Alley
  the dot com companies of ~ (NYC)

computer: place
alley (Cancer Alley)

Cancer Alley
  they live in a region known as ~ (southwestern Louisiana)

affliction: health & medicine / infrastructure
alley (up one's alley)

right up your alley
  you have to read this, it’s ~
  check this out, it’s ~

experience / interest: infrastructure
all-star (adjective)

all-star (legal) team

he had an ~ (rich pedophile)

group, set & collection: sports & games
superlative: sports & games
alluring (adjective)

alluring
  the pitch is ~ (an educational fad)

attraction & repulsion: sex
altar (at / on / upon the altar)

at the altar of disruption
  today’s tech world worships ~

on the altar of (environmental) correctness
  he would sacrifice energy independence ~

on the altar of greatness
  we are witnessing human flesh ~ (a boxer)

upon the altar of freedom
  you have laid so costly a sacrifice ~ (Lincoln)

on the altar of Radicalism
  he sacrificed the South ~ (southern view of Grant)

sacrifice (energy) independence on the altar
  he would ~ of environmental correctness

sacrifice rights on the altar of terrorism
  we can’t ~ (facial recognition)

laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar
  you have ~ of freedom (President Lincoln)

sacrifice: religion

amalgam (noun)

amalgam of (different) influences
  Turkish cooking is an intriguing ~

amalgam of (changing death-penalty) politics
  there is an ~ and concerns about the system

amalgam of speed, timing, work-rate and pressure
  he beat Baranchyk with an ~ (Scot boxer Josh Taylor)

mixture: materials & substances
Amazon (epithet)

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

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

biodiversity: epithet / place
ambassador (role)

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

ambassador for the Cherokee
  she will be an ~ (Miss Cherokee Fair / Eastern Band)
ambassador for the (Jaguar) brand
she had been the ~ (endorsement / athlete)

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

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

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

goodwill ambassador
she is a ~ for UNESCO (a famous film actor)
de facto ambassador
he serves as the ~ of skateboarding (Tony Hawk)

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


representation: government / person

ambush (verb)

ambush him with the news
so tonight I ~

readiness & preparedness: military

felt ambushed
one man ~ by her appearance

readiness & preparedness: military

ammunition

ammunition for critics
this will provide ~

ammunition for lawsuits
it could be used as ~

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

give ammunition
the video is sure to ~ to critics

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

amnesia

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

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

consciousness & awareness: health & medicine

amputate (remove)

amputate
~ before the infection spreads (poor players at Man United)

dismissal, removal & resignation: health & medicine

amok (run amok)

ran amok
the regulators sat by while the financial industry ~

run amok
this is the result of a system ~ (justice)

“Macassar is the most celebrated place in the East for “running a muck.” There are said to be one or two a month on the average, and five, then, or twenty persons are sometimes killed or wounded at one of them… A man thinks himself wronged by society—he is in debt and cannot pay—he is taken for a slave or has gambled away his wife or child into slavery—he sees no way of recovering what he has lost, and becomes desperate. He will not put up with such cruel wrongs, but will be revenged on mankind and die like a hero. He grasps his kris-handle, and the next moment draws out the weapon and stabs a man to the heart. He runs on, with bloody kris in his hand, stabbing at everyone he meets. ‘Amok! Amok!’ then resounds through the streets. Spears, krisses, knives and guns are brought out against him. He rushes madly forward, kills all he can—men, women, and children—and dies overwhelmed by numbers amid all the excitement of a battle.” (The Malay Archipelago by Alfred Russel Wallace.)

behavior: mental health
control & lack of control: mental health

amped (strength)

amped up with (plenty of) chilies
the dish is ~

amped up audio system
the car has an ~

strength & weakness: electricity

amped (feeling)

amped up
the importance of the game has both teams ~
he was so ~ that he didn't notice…

amped up on sugar and carbs
kids who are ~ can’t learn as well

amped up men
she had no business walking through a mob of ~

remain amped up
after a performance he would ~ (musician)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity

amplify (verb)

amplified flaws
the media, desperate to get it out, ~ in the reporting

amplify those ideas
a conservative media ecosystem helps ~ (alt-right)

amplify their message
they use social media to ~ (extremists)

amplify his message
he counted on his critics to ~

**increase & decrease:** sound / verb

**amplified**
amplified by the media echo chamber
their views are ~ (stock analysts, commentators, etc.)
amplified by the media megaphone
an analyst, his voice ~, can send a stock soaring or sinking

**increase & decrease:** sound

**amp up (verb)**
amped up the discussion
the film really ~ about global warming
amping up their rhetoric
Republicans are ~ (politics)
amped up the violence
high tackles led with the helmet have ~ in football

**Increase & decrease:** electricity

**anchor**
anchor of the (Egyptian) government
the military is the ~ right now (2011)
anchor for the development
the golf course is the ~ (apartments, condos)
anchor baby
opponents of immigration talk about "~s"
anchor tenant
malls need ~

**bases:** boat

**anemic (adjective)**
anemic
earnings have been ~
sales have been ~
economic growth has been ~
turnout was ~ (election)
anemic 1.5 percent
the rate of economic growth slowed to an ~
anemic attempt
their ~s to address the issue
anemic economy
our ~ is a result of higher taxes (politics)
anemic (job) growth
he produced very ~ (a leader)
anemic recovery
poverty is on the rise in the recession and the ~ continues
anemic response
people are upset by the military's ~ to the provocation

**condition & status:** health & medicine

**angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.)**
Angel of the Battlefield
Clara Barton was known as the ~ (Civil War)

**superlative:** creature / epithet / religion

**angel (appearance)**
princess or angel
I want to be Britney Spears, no more ~ (Halloween girl)

**appearance:** creature / religion

**angel (snow angel)**
snow angel
kids create ~s in the snow
it's a great place to make ~s (Dubai mall)

**angel (snow angel)**
made a snow angel
she ~ and posted it on YouTube (Johannesburg)

**shape:** creature / religion

**angel:** creature / religion

**angel (angel-faced)**

**superlative:** creature / religion

**angel (angel-faced)**

**angel (Guardian Angels, etc.)**

**Guardian Angels**
Gardiens de Nuit is a French version of New York's ~
angel (guardian angel)
guardian angel
tell my son I will always be his ~ (suicide note)

self-appointed guardian angel
Chen Si is the bridge’s ~ (stops suicides)

help & assistance: creature / religion

angel (trail angel, etc.)

lay-away angels
generous acts of kindness doled out by so-called ~ (Christmas)
trail angel
~s provide water, food, even lodging for hikers
~s figure out where hikers are likely to run into trouble
~s are a tradition on long-distance footpaths (AT, PCT)
~s left 30 1-gallon jugs of water and a note
a ~ left a cooler stocked with soda, water and beer
♦ Lay-away angels are anonymous people who pay for Christmas items put on lay-away at stores. Trail angels leave water, food, and other supplies along trails like the Appalachian Trail for the trail walkers, who are not able to carry much.

help & assistance: creature / religion

angle (from an angle)

from every angle
I have considered the issue ~
from a new angle
these conclusions help us look at the tragedy ~
considered the problem from every angle
I have ~
look at the tragedy from a new angle
these conclusion help us ~

perception, perspective & point of view: geometry

animal (different animal)

different animal
urban warfare is a ~ than fighting in the open
the new style of aggressive ad is a ~ (Internet)
completely different animal
a virtual lab is totally different from a classroom, it’s a ~
two very different animals
the map of the Pacific before and after Cook are ~
taxonomy & classification: animal

animal (political animal, etc.)

political animal
he’s a ~ and will probably go along with Israel (Obama)

identity & nature: animal

animal (insult)

animals come out
all the ~ at night (the film Taxi Driver)

insult: animal

anodyne (adjective)
anodyne drone
the ~ typing away in her silent cubicle

tend to be anodyne
its public comments on due process tend to be ~
♦ An anodyne is a drug that soothes pain.

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine

anoint (verb)
anointed him one of the beautiful people
People magazine ~
anointed him as the candidate
the Democratic establishment has ~ (Joe Biden)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb
anointed
anointed the (art world’s newest) star
he has been ~
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

antenna

antennae
I walk around with my ~ up, ready for trouble (gang)
antenna for (racial) slights
he has no ~ (Nigerian immigrant in US)

consciousness & awareness: tools & technology

anthem

anthem
it’s been an ~ ever since (Aretha sings "Respect")
anthem of a (celebrity) campaign
Dylan’s “Hurricane” was the ~ to release Rubin Carter
anthem among Pentecostals in the Appalachians
the song became an ~ ("There ain't no grave…")
angry young man's anthem
"Custer Died for Your Sins” was an ~

rock anthem
"Born to Run” is one of the best ~s ever

identity & nature: music

antidote (noun)

antidote to adversity
a cheerful disposition and a sunny smile are the ~
antidote to the boredom
provide an ~ of teaching numbers, months, etc.
antidote to criminality
empathy is the ~ (versus idea of “bad seed”)
antidote to cynicism
this book is an ~ ("Stolen Voices")
antidote to the (poisonous) doctrine
he was an ~ of extremism
antidote to violence
violence is not an ~ (capital punishment)
antidotes to hatred and intolerance
caring and sympathy are the best ~
antidote against self-pity
our callousness was an ~ (hospital ward)
antidote for stress
a break from work is a necessary ~ (vacations)
view (Tibetan) Buddhism as an antidote
some Han Chinese ~ to the materialism and greed…
♦ In "Seldom Disappointed," the great Tony Hillerman writes about the
seemingly callous banter and traditions of badly wounded soldiers on a
hospital ward in Europe. For example, a soldier has his right arm
amputated and when he returns to the ward he is greeted by his
comrades as "Lefty!" Hillerman makes the point that, while such behavior
seems "barbarous," it is, in fact, an antidote against self-pity.

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine
antique (adjective)
antique
it seems so ~ now… (a sentiment)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antiques
past & present: antiques
antique (noun)
antique
the revenue system is an ~ (economy)
turned the telegraph into an antique
the telephone ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antiques
apart (division)
apart
they reunited after years of being ~
wide apart
the two sides remained ~
grew apart
we ~ (divorce)

division & connection: prep, adv, adj, particle
avoidance & separation: prep, adv, adj, particle
apex (highest point)
at the apex of the boom
he invested ~
apex (of the fad's popularity) came
the ~ when…
reached its apex
their rivalry ~ last year (two athletes)

growth & development: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
apex (achievement)
apex of their profession
women can still have kids and reach the ~
at the apex of her career
she is ~
achievement, recognition & praise: direction
apex (apex animal, etc.)
apex animal
the tuna is an ~
apex predator
mankind is the ~ on earth
orcas are ~s
so-called ~s, like sharks, groupers and jacks
~s have no natural predators of their own
hierarchy: position / animal
predation: animal
apogee (at an apogee)
at its apogee
the British Empire was ~
at his creative apogee
when he was ~…

growth & development: astronomy / direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
apogee (noun)
apogee of chic
Paris is the ~
apogee of his career
the film was the ~
apogee of a trend
we have simply reached an ~ (minimalism in fashion)
movement's apogee
it was the ~
ascent, apogee and decline
sport compresses life's natural trajectory of ~
reached its apogee
the island ~ in the early Christian era

growth & development: astronomy / direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
apostle (noun)
apostle of niceness
he is the ~ (a poetry critic)
apotheosis of positive thinking
he is an ~

message: religion

apostle (Twelve Apostles, etc.)

Twelve Apostles
the ~ are a popular attraction (Victoria, Australia)

proper name: religion

apparatus (government)

security apparatus
he disappeared within the state ~

government: mechanism

appetite (whet the appetite)

whet audiences' appetites for films
movie trailers ~

whet people's appetite for spending
museums try to ~

whet the appetites of fans
the ad campaign is designed to ~ (TV)

whet the appetites of investors
the company's performance will not ~

whet appetites for a rematch
their fight ~ (boxing)

increase & decrease: blade / knife

appetite (appetite for fur, etc.)

appetite for adventure
baby boomers who have an ~

appetite for electricity
the nation's ~

appetite for fur
Russia's growing ~ (new wealth)

appetite for gold
India's seemingly insatiable ~ (jewelry, dowries, temples)

appetite for (royal) gossip
the tabloids' ~

appetite for a (ground) invasion
commanders have little ~

appetite for (our) money
a government that has an endless ~ (taxes)

appetite for oil
we must reduce our ~

appetite (of the European rich) for porcelain
the ~ was insatiable

appetite for pornography
the ~ seems to be insatiable

appetite for profit
their ~ sharpened by years of drought (farmers)

appetite for scores
our voracious ~ that we can use to rank our kids (ed)

appetite for sensationalism
the ~ (on part of broadcast media)

appetite for success
he had an ~ (a poet)

appetite for timber
China's voracious ~ is deforesting Siberia (Russia)

appetite for cars, cell phones, appliances and services
the ~ increases daily (China)

appetite for gambling
North Carolinians appear to have a strong ~

appetite for skateboarding
the local ~

India's (seemingly insatiable) appetite
~ for gold (jewelry, dowries, etc.)

nation's appetite
the ~ for electricity

endless appetite
a government that has an ~ for our money (taxes)

insatiable appetite
India's seemingly ~ for gold (jewelry, dowries, temples)

little appetite
commanders have ~ for a ground invasion...

local appetite
the ~ for skateboarding

low (sexual) appetite
my boyfriend has a very ~

public appetite
the Y has increased the number of debates to feed the ~

sexual appetite
my boyfriend has a very low ~

strong appetite
North Carolinians appear to have a ~ for gambling

voracious appetite
our ~ for scores that we can use to rank our kids (education)
for the last few years, China has had a ~ for bauxite
China's ~ for timber is deforesting Siberia

control over his appetites
he has no ~ (sex)

appetite (for consumer goods) increases
their ~ daily (China)

have (no) appetite
1 ~ for confrontation

feed the (public) appetite
the Y has increased the number of debates to ~
reduce our appetite
we must ~ for oil
satisfies the appetite
nothing ~ for allegory quite like a zombie film
suppress the appetite
perils and jitters ~ for private and corporate risks
consumption: food & drink
appetizer (noun)
appetizer
this is just the ~, the main course will come later (battle)
development: food & drink
applaud (verb)
applaud the administration
1 ~ for doing that (politics)
applaud his decision
many people ~
applaud her
her fans ~
applauded and denounced
they launched a movement that has been both ~
approaching elections
the US has called the ~ unfair
approaching spring
melting snow and ~ brings thoughts of…
approaching
future: direction / movement / verb
approaching elections
the US has called the ~ unfair
approaching spring
melting snow and ~ brings thoughts of…
future: direction / movement
archipelago (noun)
archipelago of enclaves
in Kosovo, most Serbs live in an ~ (Strpce, etc.)
archipelago of decency
they saw themselves as a small ~ in a rising sea of moral pollution
archipelago (noun)
archipelago of enclaves
in Kosovo, most Serbs live in an ~ (Strpce, etc.)
archipelago of decency
they saw themselves as a small ~ in a rising sea of moral pollution
configuration: sea / island
architect (creation)
architect of apartheid
a statue of Hendrik Verwoerd, the ~ (South Africa)
architect of change
she was a legendary ~ (a feminist)
architects of the doctrine
the ~ remain its strongest defenders (military)
architect of (Iraq’s) program
"Dr. Germ," the chief ~ for biological weapons (BW)
architects of the Final Solution
  Eichmann was one of the ~
architect of the war on terrorism
  he is the ~
deal's (chief) architect
  after the ~ was eased out… (hospital merger)
chief architect
  after the deal's ~ was eased out… (hospital merger)

creation & transformation: infrastructure
area (territory)
  my area
    biology isn’t ~
area: ground, terrain & land
arena (in / inside the arena)
in the mental health arena
  this has become an issue ~
in the legislative arena
  they would lose this battle ~
inside the legislative arena
  Republicans have the upper hand ~
in academic and professional arenas
  develop their languages for use ~
lose (this battle) in the legislative arena
  they would ~

conflict: history / infrastructure / sports & games
arise (verb)
crisis (of enormous gravity) has arisen
  a ~
growth & development: direction
appearance & disappearance: direction / verb
aristocratic (aristocratic wine, etc.)
aristocratic wines
  ~ at democratic prices (commercial)
superlative: royalty
arithmetic
  parliamentary arithmetic
    Johnson faces exactly the same ~ (as Theresa May)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: number
strategy: number
arm (twist arms, etc.)
twisted arms to limit
  behind the scenes, the US government ~…
twist some arms
  the President needs to ~

coercion & motivation: arm / verb
arm (arm of an organization)
arm of the Kremlin
  as an ~, Gazprom usually gets its way
distribution arm
  Disney's ~, Buena Vista (movies)
commercial arm
  the Indian Space Research Organization has a ~
political arm
  the group's ~
evolved into an arm
  Teach for America has ~ of the charter-school movement
division: arm

division: arm
division: arm

arm (right arm)
Arafat's right arm
  Abu Jihad was ~ (Kalil al-Wazir)
General Lee's right arm
  "Stonewall" Jackson was ~
strong right arm
  the Home Fleet was the ~ of Britain's naval power

Importance & significance: arm

arm (open arms)
open arms, hostility, and indifference
  US troops were greeted with ~
greeted us with open arms
  they ~
welcome them (back) with open arms
  we will ~ (rebellious soldiers)
  ♦ "This country has a history of opening its arms. Today, its arms were closed..." (Senator Barbara Boxer, on the failure of the Dream Act that would have given a path to citizenship to young migrants.)

welcome: arm

arm (long arm)
long arm of Iran
  Hezbollah is the ~
long-arm statute
  they are subject to jurisdiction pursuant to Virginia’s ~
  ♦ When workers stayed in boarding houses and ate communally in a dining room, they had to develop a “boardinghouse reach” or risk going hungry!

coercion & motivation: arm
extent & scope: arm

arm (up in arms)
up in arms over rising crime
  the community is ~
got critics up in arms
her response only ~

**conflict:** weapon

**Armageddon**
turned a Sunday afternoon into Armageddon
the crane collapse ~

**destruction:** allusion / Bible

**armed**
armed with the information
~, officials tracked down the criminals
armed with a microscope
~, he measured… (a scientist)
armed with her new mobility
the child begins exploring the world ~
armed with vast computing power
~, scientists will try to model a nuclear blast
armed (only) with her five senses
she makes diagnoses ~ (doctor)
armed with (fresh) search warrants
police arrived ~
armed with cash, good will, and local knowledge
they practice “public diplomacy” ~

**help & assistance:** military / weapon

**armor (protection)**
opponent’s armor
she uncovered a critical chink in her ~
chink in his armor
she found a ~
the one ~ has been… (an athlete)
he has not been able to find a ~ (tennis)

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

**arm’s length (at arm’s length)**
kept his daughter at arm’s length
he ~ (because she was a manipulative drug addict)
held at arm’s length
he was ~ by the US for years (an authoritarian leader)

**avoidance & separation:** arm / distance

**arm-twisting**
a lot of arm-twisting
his job requires a ~

**coercion & motivation:** arm / violence

**army**
army of followers
he’ll have an ~ (Apolo Ohno at Olympics)

army of pastors
evangelicals are spreading rapidly through an ~

army of people
it takes an ~ to get you ready (Sandra Oh / Oscars)

army of statistics
he bolsters his analysis with an ~

army of (volunteer) workers
an ~ pounded nails (community playground)

army of zombies
they band these computers together into an ~ (botnets)

army of Ph.D.s
the vast ~ now roaming the universities

army of (poorly paid) migrant workers
an ~ works in Saudi Arabia

**amount:** military

**arsenal (amount)**
arsenal of medicines
the ~ against biological weapons is limited
arsenal of (top-of-the-line) technology
the team set out last month with an ~ (search team)
arsenal of tools
their ~ for evaluating applicants (colleges)
arsenal of (fire-fighting) tools
a growing ~

beauty arsenal
the ~ you can count on (cosmetics)

growing arsenal
there is a ~ of fire-fighting tools on the market

On Sunday, January 27, 2002, an arms depot blew up on a military base in the densely packed Ikeja area of Lagos. A series of blasts shook the city, and chaos reigned as thousands fled, not knowing what was happening. At a canal several miles away, in the darkness, more than a thousand people drowned in a great crowd stampede. As is common in such stampedes, many of the victims were women and children.

**amount:** weapon / military

**help & assistance:** weapon / military

**group, set & collection:** weapon / military

**artery (route)**

artery
the ~ poured across the US fueled development

artery on the (old) Silk road
the street was an ~ (Jibek Joly in southern Kazakhstan)

artery of commerce
the Mississippi River is an ~

arteries of (global) trade
it is in all our interests that the ~ are kept free (shipping)

artery of water
the canal is a life-giving ~ (agriculture)
clogged artery
Boston’s ~ (the Central Artery)
bustling artery
the seventh floor overlooks a ~ (an avenue)
Central Artery
the ~ is clogged with traffic day and night (Boston)
north-south artery
Route One, a ~ (Jerusalem)
route: blood
branching system: blood
ascent (on the ascent)
on the ascent
India is ~ (militarily & economically)
China is ~, and the US seems on the descent
his career is ~ (an athlete)
seems to be on the ascent
plagiarism ~
growth & development: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
ascent (with the ascent)
with the ascent of the Nazis
her worst political fears came true ~
with the ascent of Chomsky
linguistics changed drastically ~
growth & development: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
ascent (other)
ascent of his party
the ~ to power in 1968 led to…
rapid ascent
the company has seen a ~
slow the ascent
action to ~ of their currencies
ascent, apogee and decline
sport compresses life’s natural trajectory of ~
growth & development: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
ashes (from the ashes)
from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire
Turkey rose ~
from the ashes of apartheid
~, Soweto is emerging as a vibrant place…
from the ashes of despair
adoption is a miracle that arises ~
emerged from the ashes
the League ~ of World War I
rose from the ashes
the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ~ of WW II
destruction / origin: fire
amelioration & renewal: fire
ask (big ask, etc.)
big ask
what you want is a ~
asking for a change is a ~
he is demanding government documents, a ~
big ask of Trump
the Polish President went to Washington with a ~
wants, needs, hopes & goals: verb to noun
asleep (adjective)
asleep
all the governments are ~ (Middle East)
♦ “I hope this film shakes people from their slumber.” (Spike Lee.)
consciousness & awareness: sleep
asleep (at the switch, etc.)
asleep at the switch
the regulators were ~ (oil spill)
asleep at the wheel
several Republican incumbents have been ~ (election)
many states have been ~ (girls marrying too young in US)
the World Health Organization was ~ (response to epidemic)
consciousness & awareness: sleep
control & lack of control: sleep
failure, accident & impairment: sleep
assassination (character assassination)
character assassination
to call him an anti-Semite is ~
calling him a racist is ~
character assassination through silence
inaction can be ~
right-wing character assassination
the film is ~ masquerading as "history"
cleverly orchestrated character assassination
the FBI conducted ~ (US)
anonymous character assassination
early uses of the printing press included ~
political character assassination
it was ~ (a script about John F. Kennedy)
posthumous character assassination
the Jackson estate calls the HBO documentary a ~
cesspool of character assassination
the Web site is a ~ (gossip site in rural towns)
victim of character assassination
he was the ~
accused her of character assassination
he ~
conduct character assassination
I'm not trying to ~
used character assassination
they ~ against him
smells of character assassination
the criminal case against him ~

accusation & criticism: speech / violence
speech: violence

astray (direction)
gone astray
science has ~, gone off the rails, many times (Havana syndrome)

failure, accident & impairment: animal / direction

astronomical

astronomical
the odds are ~
astronomical prices
the ~ of the so-called glamour health spas
astronomical (suicide) rate
a nation plagued by an ~ (Japan)

astronomical sum
this is an ~ (salary)

size: astronomy

atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere)

in an atmosphere of suspicion
they live ~
in an atmosphere of tension and gloom
people resumed their lives ~ (after rioting)
in a post-Sept.11 atmosphere
security concerns ~
in a carnival atmosphere
discussion should not have to be conducted ~
in a welcoming atmosphere
have people come together ~ (party)
within the cloistered atmosphere
she felt secure ~ (psychiatric ward)
in this highly charged atmosphere
~ the bombings started (Saudi Arabia)
in a calm atmosphere
~ we tend to win the debate (gay marriage)
in an (intensely) partisan atmosphere
~, reform is very difficult (US Congress)
in a safe, discreet atmosphere
exploring her girl/girl fantasies ~ (brothel)

environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate

atmosphere
the ~ inside the MGM Grand arena was festive
at the opening of the trial, the ~ was electric

atmosphere of acceptance
promote an ~ for new staff members

atmosphere of (open) access
an ~ at administrative buildings (pre-9/11)

atmosphere of (such sacred) ceremonies
the spiritual ~ (Wicca)

atmosphere of distrust
adding to the ~ was… (Middle East)

atmosphere of (funereal) gloom
an ~

atmosphere of stereotypes
an ~ among the restaurant workers (who tips)

atmosphere of tolerance
the ~ he had seen on US television (towards gays)

atmosphere of trust
they established an ~ (US company in China)

atmosphere of denial and repression
an ~ (pedophilia and the priesthood)

atmosphere of hopelessness and poverty
Gaza's ~

atmosphere of hostility and distrust
the ~ (Middle East)

atmosphere of a (medieval) market-pilgrim town
the old quarter had the ~ (Lhasa)

atmosphere at Central Command
the ~ was one of confidence

atmosphere on the plane
the ~ remained calm (hijacking)

carnival atmosphere
there was a ~ (peaceful anti-war protest)

family atmosphere
companies used to have a ~
it's a ~ (Wild West Weekend at historic village)

party atmosphere
a ~ had taken over
the ~, the trinket booths (Gay Pride parades)

team atmosphere
create a ~ (sports)

work atmosphere
a ~ notorious for backbiting
classroom atmosphere
he created a ~ in which we could say anything

hometown atmosphere
creating a ~ for Atlanta’s transplants (sports bars)

pressure-cooker atmosphere
the accusations underscore the ~ in the region

anti-immigration atmosphere
Sept. 11 has not yet led to a massive ~

accepting atmosphere
Amigos in the Dominican Republic has an ~ (gays)

inviting atmosphere
US’s ~ makes terrorist activities inevitable

freewheeling atmosphere
Krasnoyarsk’s ~

electric atmosphere
the ~ in the city when a pride event is in town

friendly atmosphere
the ~ that originally drew foreigners to Wisconsin

liberal atmosphere
Khujand had a surprising ~ (Tajikistan)

peaceful atmosphere
preserving the ~ (synagogue after 9/11)

poisonous atmosphere
a "~" has descended on the Times (firings)

supportive atmosphere
this ~ (at a psychiatric hospital)

electric atmosphere
a ~ for scholarly development (university)

toxic atmosphere
political leaders have contributed to a ~ (politics)

volatile atmosphere
it’s a ~ (national outrage over child abuse by clergy)

carnival-like atmosphere
a ~ outside the soccer stadium

cauldron-like atmosphere
the energy of the crowd in the ~ (World Cup)

quiet, safe and orderly atmosphere
promote a ~ (public library)

cost, taste and atmosphere
~ are important in a restaurant

food, atmosphere, music
~ (New Orleans)

size, location and atmosphere
think about company ~ (looking for a job)

atmosphere prevails
an accepting ~ throughout the Dutch Caribbean (gays)

enjoy that atmosphere
some people don’t ~ (Virgin Galactic vs. SpaceX)

poison the atmosphere
fear and distrust can quickly ~ (epidemic)

♦ "For me to be here and to sample the atmosphere, I don’t think I’ll see or hear an atmosphere like this again. The atmosphere was just something that took my breath away... I have never seen anything like this before. I’ve played at Anfield when there is a superb atmosphere but this is something else, something special." (Alan Shearer on Liverpool’s amazing victory against Barcelona in the Champion’s League second leg semifinal.)

environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate

atrophy (verb)

has atrophied
its military capacity ~ (NATO)

condition & status: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

attenuation: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

functioning: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

attached (attributed)

attached to depression
there is a severe social stigma ~

attached to it
cross burning has a history of racial intimidation ~

attached to that
no undue significance should be ~

attachment: materials & substances

attachment (noun)

attachment to him
younger black folk have less of an ~ (older celebrity)

acceptance & rejection: materials & substances

acceptance (noun)

under attack
the feeling in Egypt was that all Arabs were ~

South Korean culture is ~ (insults about food)

under attack worldwide
he read of how Muslims were ~

come under attack
such practices have ~ as cruel to animals (cages)

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

conflict: military / weapon

attack (noun)

attacks on athletes
personal ~ at games (fan abuse)

attacks on their self-esteem
dealing with ~ and dignity (stereotypes, etc.)

attacks against Saudi Arabia
he condemned Western media ~ (Abdullah)
attack ad
we are seeing ~s of every kind (election)

attack mode
she is in a real ~

media attack
he condemned Western ~s against Saudi Arabia

direct attack
under ~ you could use the quivering-lip approach

latest attack
this ~ stung local parole officials (calls to end system)

personal attacks
~ on athletes at games (fan abuse);
lading criticism or indulging in ~
fend off some (major) attacks
he has had to ~ (a politician)

accusation & criticism: weapon

aura (noun)
aura of assertiveness
she projects an ~ and self-confidence
aura of prosperity
Turkish businessmen sported an irresistible ~
aura of an (18th-century English) landscape
the pond possesses the ~
aura of a shrine
the images in the hall add the ~ (SuAnne Big Crow)
aura of unreality
an ~ descended over the mountain (disaster)
aura of doom and gloom
an ~
archive’s aura
the exhibit has an ~ of dense, ordered information

romantic aura
the pond possesses the ~ of s landscape portrait
projects an aura
she ~ of assertiveness and self-confidence
punctured Slater’s aura
he ~ of invincibility (surfing)

appearance: atmosphere

author (person)
author of his own misfortune
he fully accepts he was the ~ (arrested)
authors of our own life stories
we are not the ~ (addiction versus free will)

creation & transformation: books & reading / person
person: books & reading

autopilot (on autopilot)
on autopilot
he’s ~, his fingers go to the same place (gamer)

behavior / consciousness & awareness: plane

autopsy (analysis)
autopsy of the Cuban vote
so what’s your ~ in Florida (radio show)


analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life

avalanche (noun)
avalanche of applications
it failed to prepare for an ~ (passports)
avalanche of (prejudicial) comment
the murder trial was nearly derailed by an ~ on social media
avalanche of data
an ~ given the Russians
avalanche of publicity
the disappearance triggered an ~ (Chandra Levy)
avalanche of (unfavorable) publicity
the ~ that resulted from... (politician)
avalanche of e-mail
his most recent column drew an ~ to Salon editors
avalanche picked up speed
as the ~ (calls for politician’s resignation)

amount & effect: avalanche / snow & ice

autumn (in the autumn)
in the autumn of his life
he was ~

decline: season
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: season

avenue (portal)
avenue of advancement
India’s dalits need a new ~
new avenue
India’s dalits need a ~ of advancement

avenue (route)
avenue of attack
his wrongdoing gave lawyers an ~
fruitful avenue
this might be a ~ for further research

legal avenue
pursue all reasonable ~s
reasonable (legal) avenue
pursue all ~s

all avenues
Canada will pursue ~ to assist the jailed men
pursue (all legal) avenues
we will ~

route: infrastructure

awake (adjective)

awake to what happened
everyone seems to be wide ~ (elections)

awake American
he signs his posts, "an ~"

awake electorate
the answer is reform and an ~

♦ Sam Sanders, in "Opinion: It’s Time to Put ‘Woke’ To Sleep” (NPR, Weekend Edition Sunday, December 30, 2018) argues that the term woke has had its day and should be retired. Interestingly, nobody heard on the segment connects the term to awake from which the term must originate.

consciousness & awareness: sleep

awaken (awareness)

awakened to the horrors
on that day, the world ~ of apartheid (South Africa)

awakening in Algeria, Sudan, Morocco, and Jordan
Arab peoples are also ~ (after Tunisia, Egypt and Libya)

awaken people
we're trying to do what we can to ~

people are awakening
slowly the ~

consciousness & awareness: sleep / verb

awaken (nature, etc.)

awakening from (its winter) sleep
nature is ~

nature is awakening
~ from its winter sleep

resemblance: sleep

awakening

9/11 awakening
part of it was a ~ (desire to "do more" for others)

religious awakening
the ~ is partly an outgrowth of the war (Bosnia)

spiritual awakening
she had a ~

consciousness & awareness: sleep

awash

awash with (at least 10,000) floral bouquets
the church is ~ (for murdered girls)

awash with weapons
the Horn of Africa is ~

awash with corruption, venality and graft
the government is ~

awash in allegations
India is ~ of corruption

awash in cash
the company is ~ and looking to buy

awash in flowers, firecrackers and fine foods
Chinatown is ~ (Chinese New Year)

amount & effect: water

AwOL

went AWOL
the Federal government ~ (in defending a health act)

allegiance, support & betrayal: military

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: military

ax (noun)

budget ax
many state programs will succumb to the ~ (shortfall)
the camp may fall to the ~ (for teens)

faces the ax
the show still ~ (TV)

fall to the (budget) ax
the camp may ~ (for teens)

succumb to the ax
many state programs will ~ (budget shortfall)

taking an ax
he is ~ to spending

dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / tools & technology

ax (ax to grind)

ax to grind
he just has an ~ (criticism)
sometimes a source has an ~ (journalism)

ax to grind with the CIA
he has an ~

an to grind with midwives
many in traditional medicine have ~

ax to grind about something
there are always going to be people with an ~

ideological ax to grind
he has no ~ (a writer writing about capitalism)
personal ax to grind
he has a ~ (a critic)
political axes to grind
unions and companies often have ~
punishment & recrimination: ax / blade

baby (relationship)
his baby
the Gulf of Mexico is ~
my baby
this is ~ and I want to keep growing it (a business)
it’s ~ (Ferrari 458 Italia)
our baby
this is ~ (fire spotter speaking of his tower)
♦ “I don’t have kids but I feel that it’s like letting your baby go and grow up. So she’s on her next step before she goes up to the moon. And you have to do it.” (Dafna Jackson, an advisor at SpaceIL, after the Beresheet spacecraft was shipped to Cape Canaveral, to be launched into space by a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket. Sadly, there was a glitch at the last moment, and the spacecraft crashed-landed on the moon.)

enthusiasm / relationship: baby
feeling, emotion & effect: baby
baby (younger)
baby of the family
I lost my brother, the ~ (his age was sixty-five)
age: baby
baby (baby face, etc.)
baby face
he grew a full beard to hide his ~
appearance: baby / face
baby (vocative)
baby
so tell me, ~, do you want me to…
honey, baby, sweetie
he addresses me as ~ and other inappropriate names
vocative: speech
babysitter (role)
babysitter for the world
I’m tired of America being a ~ (illegal immigration)
electronic babysitter
they were the perfect “~” (Disney animated films)
$40,000-a-year babysitter
I’m a ~ (an unhappy corrections officer)
dependency: baby / family / person
person: baby

back (go back in time, etc.)
go back
let’s ~ to where it all began (a podcast)
go back in time
walking backwards encouraged their mind to ~ (experiment)
go (too far) back in time
I don’t want to ~, but... (exposition)
transported audiences back in time
he ~ (a singer)
takes you back in time
a trip to Abkhazia ~ to the Soviet past
♦ “Five Ways you could become a memory champion” by Claudia Hammond, BBC, 29 March 2019, mentions an interesting experiment at the University of Roehampton that links the past (and memory) to actual physical backward movement.
past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb
back (verb)
back Obama
will Hispanics ~
allegiance, support & betrayal: back / position / verb
back (on the back, etc.)
getting rich on the backs
publishers are ~ of libraries and academics
allegiance, support & betrayal: back / position / verb
back (behind somebody’s back)
behind her friend’s back
she went after him ~ (dated friend’s boyfriend)
went behind my back
he ~
whispered behind her back
people ~
whispered "queer" behind his back
people ~ (student)
badmouth your spouse behind his or her back
don’t ~
ridicule (negative) leaders behind their backs
people typically ~
talk about bosses behind their backs
if you want a promotion, don’t ~ (gossip)
♦ “Out here, people had a smile on their face and a dagger behind their back.” (Bigotry and discrimination.)
allegiance, support & betrayal: back
subterfuge: back
back (scratch somebody’s back)
scratch my back
you ~, I'll scratch your back (mutual aid and assistance)

social interaction: back / verb

back (back and forth)

back and forth on that
there has been a lot of ~ (political issue)

position, policy & negotiation: movement

back (pat on the back / verb)

pat yourselves on the back
you did well, ~ (praise)

achievement, recognition & praise: back / gesture

back (pat on the back / noun)

pat on the back
give yourselves a ~ (praise from teacher)

achievement, recognition & praise: back / gesture

back (off one's back)

get off my back
~ and leave me alone

get them off my back
try and ~ (superiors)

affliction: animal / back
oppression: animal / back
conflict: animal / back

back (carry something on one's back)

carried the team on his back
he ~ (football player)

difficulty, easiness & effort: back / burden / weight

back (turn one's back)

turned her back on Hollywood
Jamie Lee Curtis ~ (chose to live elsewhere)

turned its back on the victims
the West ~ (Rwanda genocide)

turned his back to anyone
he never ~ who needed help (a priest)

acceptance & rejection: back / verb

back (break the back)

backs of defenders
the plan is designed to break the ~s (Baghdad)

break the backs
the plan is designed to ~ of defenders (Baghdad)

break your back
she'll ~ if you're not paying attention to her (basketball)

destruction: back / verb

back (back to the wall)

backs are to the wall
our ~

backs are (really) against the wall
our ~ (sports tournament)

survival, persistence & endurance: back
resistance, opposition & defeat: back

back (vulnerability, attack)

got your back
I've ~

guard your back
you've got to ~

watch your back
~ (a warning)

watch his back
he failed to ~ (leader deposed in coup)

watching my back
it's good to know that you are ~ (protecting, supporting)

protection & lack of protection: back

back (get one's back up, etc.)

got his back up
a good bowler ~ and we couldn’t stop him (Ashes cricket)

get my back up
his tone just ~

got my back up about the request
he ~

resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / back / dog / verb
conflict: animal / back / dog / verb

back away (verb)

back away from the issue
Democrats are starting to ~ (impeachment)

avoidance & separation: verb / walking, running & jumping

backbiting

backbiting, exclusion, rumors
girls use ~ (girls bullying girls)

behavior: animal / back / predation
conflict: animal / back

backbone (basis)

backbone of Al Qaeda
Uzbeks and other Central Asians are the ~ in the area

backbone of the (rebel) army
the Dinka tribe, which formed the ~ (southern Sudan)

backbone of the company
these people are the ~
backbone of the (Louisiana) economy
shrimping is the ~ (oil spill)

backbone of (the Navy’s) leadership
surface warfare officers are the ~

backbone of his (political) party
they are the ~

backbone of rigor
in science, sharp criticism is the ~

Backbone of the World
Native Americans called these jagged peaks the “~” (Glacier NP)

backbone and nervous system
the Nile provides Egypt with a natural ~

financial backbone
the oil pipeline serves as the ~ of the country

infrastructure backbone
Amazon provides the ~ for major firms (servers)

transportation backbone
Greyhound is the ~ for people who can’t afford…

bases: back

backbone (branching system)
backbone of the Kamchatka Peninsula
the Sredinny Range, the ~

Guinean backbone
Mount Nimba is part of the so-called ~ (Guinea)

branching system: back

backbone (courage)
takes backbone
for Republicans, it ~ to stand up to Trump

courage & lack of courage: back
strength & weakness: back

backbone (Devil's Backbone, etc.)
Devil’s Backbone
the road is called El Espinazo del Diablo—the ~

♦ There are Devil's Backbones in New Zealand, Ireland and South Africa.

proper name: back

backbreaking
backbreaking labor
a coal miner’s capacity for ~

backbreaking shift
after a ~ (at a nursing home)

backbreaking work
~ for 50 cents a day (Africa)

backbreaking and dangerous (m)
it was ~ labor (diamond mining)

difficulty, easiness & effort: back

back burner (on the back burner)
on the back burner
that all seems to be ~ now

on the budget back burner
the environment is ~

remained on the back burner
the tax issue ~ (politics)

sits on the back burner
the climate-change issue ~ in Washington

put the issue on the back burner
he ~ (a politician)

put on the back burner
a lot of the department's works has been ~ (priorities)

priority: direction / position
importance & significance: direction / position

back burner (to the back burner)
relegated to the back burner
major problems have been ~ (Saudi Arabia)

pushed (climate) issues to the back burner
the economic crisis has ~

priority: direction / position
importance & significance: direction / position

back down (verb)
back down
the compromise allows both politicians to ~
she’s an artist who won’t ~ or bow to convention

backed down
faced with a coup, the government ~
the government ~ and commuted the death sentences

backing down
she is holding her ground and not ~

back down from a confrontation
analysts believe he will ~

refused to back down
the protestors have ~

forced him to back down
a political firestorm ~ (King)

backing down
she is holding her ground and not ~

dominance & submission: animal / back / gesture / standing, sitting & lying / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / back / standing, sitting & lying / verb
conflict: animal / back / verb
**backdrop (against a backdrop)**

against that backdrop
~. it’s not a huge surprise (attack on consulate)
against the backdrop of the Cold War
it was ~ that… (Eisenhower speech)
against a backdrop of (ongoing) violence
negotiations go on ~ (Middle East)

**context: theater**

**backed**

backed by Iran
the rebels are ~
backed by the US
he has been ~ and other countries (Guaido vs. Maduro)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: back / position**

**backfire (verb)**

backfire
the campaign may succeed but it could also ~ (military)
"circle-the-wagons mentality" backfired
the ~

**reversal: verb / weapon**

**background (fade into the background)**

fade into the background
many prefer to ~ (teen-model sites on Internet)
faded into the background
the doctor-patient relationship has ~ (vs. money)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: picture / verb**

**appearance & disappearance: picture / verb**

**perception, perspective & point of view: picture / verb**

**backing (support)**

backing from the university
she received some ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: back / position**

**backlash**

backlash against (bilingual) education
today in the climate of ~
anti-American backlash
the government has struggled to prevent an ~ (Yemen)
climate of backlash
today in the ~ against bilingual education
backlash has started
the ~
sparked a backlash
his crusade has ~ (make school lunches more healthful)

A backlash against Facebook and technology has been referred to as a techlash.

**resistance, opposition & defeat / reversal: violence / whip**

**hitting, slamming & lashing: violence / whip**

**backlog (amount)**

backlog
prolonging the process and swelling the ~ (visa requests)
backlog of cases
the FBI has a huge ~ (security clearances)
backlog of planes
because the weather will create a ~ waiting to land…
backlog of work
the NTSB needs to move on to the ~ that…
paperwork backlog
reducing the overall INS ~

processing backlog
foster kids remain orphans due to a ~ (adoptions)

♦ The backlog is the large log at the back of a hearth

**amount / timeliness & lack of timeliness: fire**

**backpedal (verb)**

backpedaling on key demands
China has been ~ (trade dispute)
backpedals on (tax) pledge
top Republican ~
back-pedal from his comments
he continued to ~ (a politician / BBC)

**reversal: direction / mechanism / movement / verb**

**back seat (take a back seat)**

take a backseat to my job
my job and family began to ~
take a back seat to unseating
issue must ~ the current president

**priority: direction / position**

**Importance & significance: direction / position**

**backstabber**

backstabber
he’s a ~, watch out
he’s the worst kind of ~, he poses as a friend
backstabber or turncoat
being a ~ is offensive to most people
two-faced backstabber
he’s a ~
traitor, a backstabber and a fraud
former fans have been waiting to call him a ~ (basketball)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: knife**

**behavior: knife**

**character & personality: knife**
backstabbing
~ is an art (African politics)
back-stabbing and bad-mouthing
~ on the “Survivor” TV show
backstabbing and betrayal
~ remain a function of all our lives
allegiance, support & betrayal: knife
behavior: knife
backstage (adjective)
backstage advisor
he remains a ~ to Putin
backstage contacts
there have been ~ between them (diplomacy)
backstage diplomacy
~ has turn to more open confrontation
backstage look
the documents and testimony provide a ~ at why…
backstage negotiations
approval of the nominations came after ~
backstage politics
the organization is rife with ~ (sports)
backstage role
the administration playing a ~ in trying to resolve…
he played a pivotal ~ in persuading…
backstage self
we have a private, ~, versus our public self
backstage political struggle
he settled the ~ by choosing… (UN)
backstage lobbying
there has been ~ by Washington (diplomacy)
backstage manoeuvering
there has been a lot of ~ (diplomacy)
backstage wrangling
after weeks of ~, the Party has decided…
backstage policy making
he was a master of ~ (Labor Party)
operates backstage
he operates ~ (an athletic booster)
concealment & lack of concealment: theater
attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater
backtrack (go back in time)
backtrack
I think we have to ~ a bit (a history discussion)
past & present: journeys & trips / movement / verb
backtrack (reversal)
backtrack
the union has had to ~ on its demands
reversal: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
back up (verb)
back up
let’s ~ and get big picture for a second (NPR radio show)
past & present: journeys & trips / movement / verb
backward (adjective)
backward Turkey
Ataturk took a ~ and made it modern
backward tack
I am embarrassed by the ~ of this administration
backward traditions
the Prophet (PBUH) did his utmost to eradicate ~
culturally backward (m)
stoning takes place in remote and ~ areas
progress & lack of progress: direction
backwards (progress)
step backwards
to me this seems like a huge ~
go backwards
we should not ~ down the road toward nuclear power
sliding backwards
we are ~ to a less enlightened time
move us backwards
the election will ~ economically
progress & lack of progress: direction / movement
backwards (past)
go backwards
they want to ~ to a romanticized past that never existed
look backward
New Year’s day is a time to ~ and forward
some ~ to a (reputedly) glorious past for answers
marching backwards
it feels like this country is ~ to the Middle Ages (religion)
past & present: direction / movement
backwater (noun)
backwater
in 1831, Southampton County was a ~
backwater of the Office of International Affairs
he was transferred into the relative ~
long-ignored (rural) backwater
in ~s
remote backwater
  Darien remained a ~

rural backwater
  Darien remained a ~

sleepy backwater
  oil transformed Khartoum from a ~ to a modern city

stereotype of Turkey as an (agricultural) backwater
  the ~ persists

became a backwater
  there were a lot of other reasons that Spain ~ for so long

isolation & remoteness: river
progress & lack of progress: river
center & periphery: river

backyard (in somebody's backyard)
in China's (own) backyard
  ~, Southeast Asia…
in Russia's backyard
  Kyrgyzstan is ~ (politics, etc.)

proximity: house

backyard (other)
backyard
  the Sunset Beach wave was my ~ (Hakman)
historical and rightful backyard
  China sees northeast Asia as its ~
not-in-my-backyard (m)
  this is one of those ~ issues (Nimby)

proximity: house

badge (badge of honor)
badge of honor
  playing from memory is a ~ (pianists)
became a badge of honor
  the "one-percenter" label ~ (bikers)
tarnishes the badge
  this ~ we all wear proudly on our chests (bad cop)
wore his scorn as a badge of honor
  she ~
  ♦ The Medal of Honor is the US military's highest honor. Unlike other medals, it has never—arguably—been devalued. Two recipients—Desmond T. Doss and Thomas W. Bennett—were conscientious objectors.

achievement, recognition & praise: sign, signal, symbol

badger (verb)
badgered him
  the lawyer ~ (trial)

speech: animal / verb

badlands (environment)
badlands of real life
  students leave the sanctuary of academe for the boorish ~

environment: ground, terrain & land

baggage
baggage of marriage
  the ~ (gender, religion, culture, etc.)

baggage of the South
  the racial ~ (US)

baggage from his (ancestral) past
  each person comes into the world with ~ (race, religion, class, etc.)

baggage and attitude
  he dealt with all the ~ we had (poor kids)

complicated baggage
  soldiers take home some more ~ (from overseas)

generational baggage
  Boomers, Xers go to work carrying lots of ~

historical baggage
  the word crusade has largely shed its ~ in the West

political baggage
  the ~ of its anti-establishment origins (black studies)

pseudoscientific baggage
  gay had a long linguistic history and no ~ (vs. homosexual)

psychological baggage
  students can arrive with ~ (suicides at MIT)

racial baggage
  the ~ of the South (US)

a lot of baggage
  Biden has been around a long time and has a ~ (politics)

cultural and historical baggage
  the ~ that rugby lugs (in South Africa)

historical, cultural and religious baggage
  the ~ (of marriage)

social and economic baggage
  students with ~ (alternative school)

carrying (lots of generational) baggage
  Boomers, Xers go to work ~

freighted with (historical and cultural) baggage
  the N-word is ~ (racial epithets)

history: burden / journeys & trips / weight

oppression: weight

bailout (noun)
bailout
  ~s are unpopular (of banks, national economies)
survival, persistence & endurance: boat
amelioration & renewal: boat

**bail out (save)**
bail out Mexico
the IMF helped ~ in the 1990s
bailing out (big) banks
the taxpayers are ~
bailed out the company
the government ~ (with loans)

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat / verb**
**amelioration & renewal: boat / verb**

**bail out (leave)**
bailed out
high-profile guests have ~ (attending a party)
bailed out of school
he ~ in 2008 (an athlete)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: plane / verb**

**bailed out**
bailed out by the EU and the I.M. F.
Ireland was ~ in 2010

**survival, persistence & endurance: boat**
**amelioration & renewal: boat**

**bait (noun)**
bait
the Iraqis didn't take the ~ (fire and expose themselves)
take the bait
you can ~ or learn to pick your battles (relationships)
rise to the bait
he refused to ~ (speech)
rises to the bait
trolls ask stupid questions to see who ~ (Internet)
took the bait
I made a nice feint and he ~ (chess)
the news media ~ (picked up story that was not true)

**attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting**
**pursuit, capture & escape / hunting**

**bake (attach)**
baked delays into their schedules
airlines have ~ instead of improving operations

**attachment: cooking**
**identity & nature: cooking**
**configuration: cooking**

**baked (baked in / into)**
baked into that term
some evangelicals don’t like the assumptions that are ~
baked in the cake
it was ~ (a man’s vice)

**attachment: cooking**
**identity & nature: cooking**
**configuration: cooking**

**balance (verb)**
balance the demands
trying to ~ of work and family
balance a home and a career
for women trying to ~
balance militancy versus moderation
his speech had to ~ (MLK)
balance (energy) needs and the land
an example for how to ~
balance security and synchronization
~ (special operations / military)
balance civil liberties and national security
how to ~ in a war on terror
balance tradition with changes
Inuit leaders try to ~
balance the need (for openness) with national security
policies to ~
balance the benefits against the difficulties
you need to ~
balance the human cost against the cost to the animal
we must ~
balance the need against the risks
we must ~ (combat rescues)
balance their assignments against their safety
photojournalists have to ~

**how to balance**
an example for ~ energy needs and the land
struggling to balance
young women ~ work and family priorities

**trying to balance**
~ the demands of work and family

**equilibrium & stability: scale / verb**

**balance (hang in the balance)**
hanging in the balance
lives are ~ (tornado forecasting)
hangs in the balance
Britain's future ~ (elections)
hung in the balance
his life ~ (penalty phase of trial)

**fate, fortune & chance: equilibrium & stability / scale**
balance (off balance)
kept the actors off-balance
he ~ by interrupting their line readings (film)
keep the enemy off balance
try to ~
throw the Soviets off balance
an assault to ~ and regain the initiative
throws the show off balance
his realistic portrayal ~ (a play)
throw the system off balance
it will ~ (the body)

readiness & preparedness: equilibrium & stability / scale
disruption: equilibrium & stability / scale
equilibrium & stability: scale
flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability / scale

balance (out of balance)
out of balance
in a person with depression, these chemicals are ~
my priorities and life are ~
wildly out of balance
the sauce was ~, overloaded with… (food)
woefully out of balance
the system is ~ (politics)
priorities are out of balance
our societal ~
values (as a nation) are (sadly) out of balance
our ~
swung (way) out of balance
the financial sector has ~
equilibrium & stability: scale
flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability / scale

balance (work and job, etc.)
balance in my life
the ocean represents ~ (Ken Bradshaw / surfer)
balance between modesty and sexiness
aim to strike a ~
work / life balance
the generations disagree on authority, teamwork, ~
workers who value a ~
know your limits to maintain a happy ~ and avoid burnout
wholeness, balance, wellbeing, health
pay attention to your ~ (Hozho)
keeps his balance
he ~ by leaving his work behind when he returns home
strike a balance
aim to ~ between self-denial and overindulgence
equilibrium & stability: scale

balance (noun)
balance of chemicals
restoring the normal ~ in the brain (antidepressants)
balance of the region
the dams would disrupt the ecological ~
balance of freshwater and saltwater
a dike collapse could destroy the delicate ~ (estuary)
balance of stability and flexibility
the ankle joint is designed for a ~
balance between existence and annihilation
the ~ was precarious (Homer)
balance between stability and mobility
the elbow joint displays an elegant ~
balance between racing and safety
you have to find a ~ (5 Oceans race)
balance between usability and security
the ~ is a tricky one (computers)
fluid balance
her ~ needs to be restored (medicine)
trade balance
control the ~
basic balance
the ~ of sweet, salty, sour, and bitter (Cambodian cuisine)
delicate balance
a dike collapse could destroy the ~ of fresh / saltwater
ecological balance
the dams would disrupt the ~ of the region
fragile balance
the ~ between production and conservation (natural gas)
sense of balance
we must restore a ~ to the debate (energy / conservation)
checks and balances
she didn't go through the regular process of ~ (corruption)
balance (of the Supreme Court) has shifted
now that the ~
attain a balance
~ between mission accomplishment and environmental protection (war)
destroy the (delicate) balance
a dike collapse could ~ of fresh and saltwater (estuary)
find a balance
you have to ~ between racing and safety (Velux 5)
restore balance
a decrease in OPEC's output would be needed to ~
strike a balance
~ between what is possible and what is probable (combat)
equilibrium & stability: scale

balanced

balanced approach
a ~ for the listing of adult items on eBay
a ~ might involve asking… (race, genes and disease)
balanced budget (m)
the ~ amendment
balanced diet
a ~ might not be on the menu
balanced perspective
it is important to have a ~ (safety and study abroad)
balanced and responsible (m)
a ~ approach to development (Arctic)
racially balanced (m)
the show has a ~ cast (theater)
fair and balanced (m)
~ news

balance (noun)
equilibrium & stability: scale

balance of power

balance of power
naked aggression to change the ~ (political)
balance of power between professor and student
the ~ is so slanted (dating)
balance of power in Kashmir
it would have no impact on the ~
shift in the balance of power
there's a ~ (relationships)
impact on the balance of power
it would have no ~ in Kashmir

ball (play ball)

play ball
it is often good politics to ~
played ball
he would never have ~, he was a man of integrity
play ball with the Kremlin
you either ~, or… (business)
play ball with (party) leaders
many candidates refuse to ~ in Washington
play ball with me
if you ~, I'll play ball with you
play ball with newspapers
WikiLeaks may be willing to ~ for now, but…
willing to play ball
she may be ~
need to play ball
the unions ~ (local hiring)
refused to play ball
he has ~ with the EPA (politics)
get Republicans to play ball
Democrats are struggling to ~

social interaction: sports & games / verb
unanimity & consensus: sports & games / verb

ball (drop the ball)
dropped the ball on this case
a lot of agencies ~ (serial killer)

failure, accident & impairment: ball / sports & games / verb

ball (ball in somebody's court)
ball is in your court
the ~

social interaction: ball / sports & games
position, policy & negotiation: ball / sports & games
action, inaction & delay: ball / sports & games
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ball / sports & games

ball (take one's eye off the ball)
took his eye off the ball
some people think Obama ~ (rising unemployment)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: sports & games / verb
consciousness & awareness: sports & games / verb

ball (get the ball rolling, etc.)
get the ball rolling
we need to ~
this is a good investment to ~
sometimes it takes a gentle nudge to ~
he made attempts to ~ on this very thing
keep the ball rolling
to ~, we must…

started the ball rolling
he ~, and other businesses followed suit
CO2 may have ~, but... (global warming)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: ball / verb**

**balloon (verb)**

ballooned
the number of women (in prisons and jails) has ~
ballooning
the debt is ~
long-term unemployment is ~
balloon
as our entitlement commitments ~
ballooned into Wall Street's biggest crisis
the credit squeeze ~ since...
ballooned to $14.4 billion
the price tag has ~ (military project)

**increase & decrease: atmosphere / balloon / verb**

**balloon (noun)**

helium balloon
he punctured the ~ of the stock’s soaring price

**ballooning**

ballooning (pension) costs
he blames the problem on ~
ballooning (national) debt
voters are alarmed by the ~
ballooning deficit
the state is faced with a ~
ballooning demand
~ for oil is bound to be disruptive
ballooning (Medicaid) expenses
government officials look to curb ~
ballooning problem
this spotlights the ~
ballooning trade surplus
China has a ~ with the US
ballooning (cost) overruns
the State Department agency tried to hide ~

**increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon***

**ballgame (new ballgame)**
whole new ballgame
we're in a ~
online journalism is a ~

**situation: sports & games**

**ballistic**

go ballistic
people will ~ when they read that...
went ballistic
she ~ (upset and angry)
she confronted her husband with the pictures and ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: rocket**

**balm (noun)**

balm for the afflictions
his wisdom is a ~ of our age (a poet)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**banana (noun)**

banana skin
he’s a potential ~ (boxer speaking of tough next opponent)

“*I slip on a banana peel, that’s tragedy. You slip on a banana peel, that's comedy.*” (Attributed to Charlie Chaplin.)

**failure, accident & impairment: fruits & vegetables**

**Band-Aid (noun)**

Band-Aid
if it’s real and it isn’t just a ~... (a proposed program)
band-aid solution
this a just a ~ for a much deeper problem
put a Band-Aid on a bullet wound
we’ll always ~ (social justice)

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**substance & lack of substance: health & medicine**

**bandwagon (noun)**

jumped on the bandwagon
I ~, repeating the things being said around me (regret)
leaped onto the bandwagon
the TV industry also ~ (3-D)

**unanimity & consensus: music**

**bane (noun)**

bane of my life
the spinal brace quickly became the ~ (injured back)
greatest bane
corruption is the single ~ of our society

• Bane relates to poison, and black henbane is a poisonous plant. Poison plants have had a long relationship to public health, animal husbandry, traditional medicine, witchcraft, and even murder.
affliction: plant

bang (with a bang)

ended with a bang
  the tournament ~, not a whimper
finish (out his career) with a bang
  Tapia has a chance to ~ by... (boxer)
go out with a bang
  the players wanted their coach to ~ (by winning)
  apparently he wanted to ~ (mass shooter)
hit home with a bang
  reality ~
kicking the year off with a bang
  deal makers are ~ (mergers)
opens with a bang
  the play ~, as...
opened with a bang
  the film ~ (good revenues)
returned with a bang
  he ~ (athlete has great day)
start (out) with a bang
  I wanted to ~, so I...

attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound
feeling, emotion & effect: sound
bang (bang for the buck)
bang for the buck from Special Operations
  the coalition gets plenty of ~ (war)
little bang for the buck
  the report concluded subsides offered ~
more bang for the buck
  employers will get ~ from this program
most bang for the buck
  the president will focus on getting the ~ from...
nutritional bang for the buck
  greens offer ~
get more bang for the buck
  at Wall-Mart, you get more ~
cost & benefit: sound
feeling, emotion & effect: sound
banished
banished to the bullpen
  he has been ~ (a pitcher)
dismissal, removal & resignation: society
acceptance & rejection: society
banishment (noun)
banishment of Brandon from the team

the ~ is complete hypocrisy (a religious honor code)
banishment from the hall
  plagiarism can result in the ~ of academe
banishment from the league
  it is time to end his ~ (a disgraced athlete)
result in banishment
  plagiarism can ~ from the halls of academe
dismissal, removal & resignation: society
acceptance & rejection: society
bankrupt (adjective)
bankrupt defense
  it's a ~ (blaming victim for hate crime)
to ~
  intellectually bankrupt
    our way of managing parole supervision is ~
morally bankrupt
  placating terrorists is ~
worth & lack of worth: money
banner (carry a banner)
carry the banner of the National Front
  she intends to ~ into the 21st century
carrying a banner for female athletes
  she is ~ (Annika Sorenstam)
carrying a banner for black directors
  he said he was not ~ (playwright)
representation: flags & banners / verb
banner (under the banner)
under the banner of the ruling party
  both men will contest the election ~
under the banner of the IMU
  armed men ~ invaded Tajikistan
allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners
banner (behind the banner)
behind the banner of reparations
  they hoped to unite the community ~ (protest)
allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners
banner (banner of Islam, etc.)
banner of Islam
  the youth must hold aloft the ~ (King Abdullah)
hold aloft the banner
  the youth must ~ of Islam (King Abdullah)
hide behind the banner
  scoundrels ~ of patriotism
wave the banner
  they ~ of religion
allegiance, support & betrayal: flags & banners

banner (size)

banner ad
  for 10,000 visitors, I made $330 per ~ (Internet)

banner headline
  the newspaper ran a ~ declaring… ~s trumpeted the news

banner weekend
  it was a ~ for HBO this weekend (many viewers)

banner year
  2000 was a ~ for genomics

size: flags & banners

baptism

baptism by fire
  it was my ~ (new teacher)

baptism of fire
  Salk referred to his time with Francis as a "~"

experience: religion / water

baptized

baptized in fire and blood
  you have been ~ and come out steel (combat)

get baptized
  you ~ pretty quickly in this business (death-penalty law)

experience: religion / water

bar (bar is set high, etc.)

bar
  the ~ is set so high for him (performance)
  the ~ is down to “don’t do dumb stuff”

difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games

barbaric (behavior)

barbaric power
  the people are under the boot of ~
  reckless and barbaric
  the ~ attack (use of Novichok in England)

behavior: history

bare (lay bare)

lays bare the (latent) anti-Semitism
  the vandalism ~ that still exists in society

laid bare the challenge
  the incident has ~ of the alliance (US / Pakistan)

laid bare the whirlpool

his murder ~ of religious violence and extremism

concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories / verb

bare (laid bare)

laid bare in the (feisty TV) debate
  the candidates’ divisions were ~ (politics)

concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories / verb

bare (verb)

bared the excesses
  the rally ~ of his movement

bare the secrets
  the press can ~ of government and inform people

concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / clothing & accessories / verb

bare-bones

bare-bones budget
  we want to have a ~ (saving money)

bare-bones care
  under the plan, seniors will get ~ (health)

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

bare-knuckled (adjective)

bare-knuckled approach
  he took a ~ the rarified world of art criticism

bare-knuckles work
  she counted votes and did the ~ that was needed (politics)

conflict / violence: boxing

bark (verb)

barked
  "Look up," he ~

barked at them to stop
  the policeman ~

barked at Rodriguez for running
  he ~ over his mound (baseball)

bark commands at the TV
  people ~ (voice commands)

speech: animal / dog / verb

sound: animal / dog / verb

barnstorm (verb)

barnstorming the state
  they have been ~ (politicians)

barnstorming for months
  after ~… (a politician)
message: plane / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: plane / verb

Barnum
modern-day P. T. Barnum
he is sort of a ~ (an arena builder and promoter)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: allusion / circus / person

barometer (noun)
barometer of their abundance
but the catch rate provides a ~ (sharks)
barometers of change
public tours serve as ~ (limited after 9/11)
barometer of (poor) nutrition
childhood anemia, a ~, is higher in India than China
barometer for his team
he has been a ~ (when he is good, team is good)
career barometer
actors used the show as a ~ (Law and Order)
closely watched barometer
the index is a ~ of home prices

measurement: tools & technology

barometer (Arab Barometer, etc.)
bared the excesses
the rally ~ of his movement
bare the secrets
the press can ~ of government and inform people

proper name: tools & technology

barrage (noun)
barrage
no software can eliminate the ~ (popup ads / computers)
barrage of combinations
he reshaped his nose with a ~ (boxing)
barrage of (graphic) pictures
Saudis get a ~ of Palestinians suffering…
barrage of questions
I was subjected to a ~
his ~ barely left time for answers

♦ The rolling barrage was developed in World War I to provide what is described nowadays as “shock and awe” for attacking infantry soldiers.

amount & effect: military / weapon

barrel (at the bottom of the barrel)
at the bottom of the barrel
I did my time ~ (worst job assignment)
finish at the bottom of the barrel
we ~ every year (a sports team)
stuck at the bottom of the barrel

I'm ~ (pay scale)
hierarchy: position

barrel (verb)
barreled up the Eastern Seaboard
the hurricane ~

movement: force / verb

barricade (storm the barricades)
storm the barricades
it's worth it to try and ~ (taking illegal vans in NYC)
stormed the barricades
he ~, time and again (to hold the church accountable)

storm the barricades of racism
many left their studies to ~ (Martin Luther King)

storm the barricades of (male) resistance
women have to ~

storm the barricades for him
many are ready to ~ (support for an embattled politician)
certain to storm the barricades
shareholders will be ~ (losing money)
ready to storm the barricades
she casts herself as an outsider, ~ (a politician)

resistance, opposition & defeat: history / verb

barrier

barriers to access
~ in that market are extremely costly (trade)
barriers to (foreign) ownership
lower ~ of local industries
barriers to participation
a meet with the theme of overcoming ~ (climbing)
barriers to (import) penetration
~ in Japan
barrier between animals and humans
influenza could hop the ~

barriers and stereotypes
coming out and tearing down ~ in "macho" professions

age barrier
no ~, no height bar, no gender gap
class barrier
~s are deepening cultural and racial ones

color barrier
broke rugby's ~ in 1976
gender barrier
she broke a ~ (first Division I female football player)
pain barrier
practicing through the ~ (musicians)
research barrier
by easily being able to grow the cells, he overcame a ~

trade barriers
the lowering of ~ (globalization)

Cultural barrier
despite language and ~s, people came together (protest)
people struggle to communicate across ~s

legal barrier
~s to correcting injustices (death-penalty cases)

racial barrier
it helped to bring down some ~s (basketball)

Socioeconomic barrier
debate over the ~ facing black boys (education)

linguistic, cultural and psychological barriers
immigrants face many ~

lowering of (trade) barriers
the ~ (globalization)

glass ceilings and other barriers
~ barring women

stereotypes and other barriers
trying to break down ~ (foreigners)

broke (a lot of) barriers
she ~ (a famous woman)

lower these barriers
20 states have passed laws to ~ (expunging criminal records)

overcame a (research) barrier
by easily being able to grow the cells, he ~

put up (new) barriers
as many European countries ~ (against immigrants)

bring down some (racial) barriers
it helped to ~ (basketball)

break down (racial) barriers
how to ~ in France

get past the sex barrier
how do I ~ with guys (she waits, he loses interest)

communicate across (cultural) barriers
people struggle to ~

baselines & Impedance: ground, terrain & land

division & connection: ground, terrain & land

Baseline

baseline level
it drops to ~s (a hormone)

baseline measurement
exposures may be difficult to interpret without ~

baseline poverty
will Haiti return to ~ (after earthquake)

baseline study
tedious ~s

baseline of how
we do need a ~ things have been in the past (polar ice)

♦ A baseline relates to land surveying.

Analysis, Interpretation & Explanation / Measurement:
Surveying

basement (hierarchy)
in the basement for (high-school) graduates
we’re now ~ (US education and the OECD)
hierarchy: direction

basement (concealment)
internet’s dirty basement
if you peer into the ~ (conspiracy theories, fake news)
concealment & lack of concealment: house
bash (verb)
bashing the democrats
the president has been ~ on immigration
bash opponents
“white privilege” is used as a political weapon to ~
hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / verb / violence
speech: fist / verb / violence
acusation & criticism: fist / verb / violence

bashing (noun)

Arab bashing
the rising tide of ~ in America (post 9/11)

Guat-bashing
the crimes have a chilling street name, “~” (Guatemalans)
Islam bashing
the rising tide of ~ in America
detractors describe her comments as “~” (Ayaan Ali)
business-bashing (m)
this will dispel the ~ image of Obama (politics)
gay-bashing
issues include AIDS and ~
he thought he’d be safe from ~ (high-school student)
gay-bashing (m)
the ~ televangelist was arrested in a public toilet

man bashing
some women are uneasy with ~

hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / violence
speech: fist / violence

bask (verb)

basked in the glow
she ~ of being a global business celebrity
bask in the prestige
major cities ~ of the Olympics

bask in that smile
she knows what it feels like to ~ (of a handsome man)

basking in (an Olympic) triumph
the U.K. is ~

basking in his victory
on a hot day, Boris Johnson is ~ (new Prime Minister)

feeling, emotion & effect: animal / atmosphere / temperature / verb
behavior: animal / atmosphere / temperature / verb

basket case

Basket case
Haiti has not always been a ~
from the standpoint of manufacturing, America is a ~
the economy is not a ~
he considered the company a ~ (an executive)

basket-cases of Central Asia
the two ~, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan

Europe's basket case
Ireland used to be ~

economic basket case
Spain is an ~
North Korea is now an ~, propped up by China

emotional basket case
the whole experience left me an ~

international basket case
Kissinger described Bangladesh as an ~

A basket case is a person who has had all limbs amputated.
Its date of inclusion in dictionaries—1919—means it probably references soldiers severely wounded in World War I.

functioning: health & medicine
ability & lack of ability: health & medicine
condition & status: health & medicine

bastion

bastion of elitism
he views golf courses as a ~ (Chavez)

bastion of (racial) exclusivity
the sorority is a ~

bastion of (southern male) privilege
the private club was once a ~

bastion of religion
Poland is a ~

bastions of free speech
universities are no longer ~

bastion of tradition and authority
the university is a ~

bastion for the militia

the neighborhood is a ~
Democratic bastion
Chicago is a ~

last bastion
Las Vegas casinos are the ~ for smokers
public-employee unions are the ~ of labor strength

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military
bat (go to bat for somebody)
go to bat for him
nobody will ~ (a dictator under siege)

allegiance, support & betrayal: sports & games

baton (pass on the baton)
passed on the baton
Tony Pike ~ (running a hotel on Ibiza)

starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games
transmission: sports & games

baton (drop the baton)
dropped the baton
the company ~ on this

failure, accident & impairment: sports & games

batten (batten down)
battened down
people have ~ (for a hurricane)

protection & lack of protection: boat / storm
readiness & preparedness: boat / storm
survival, persistence & endurance: boat / storm

batter (verb)
battered the city
the hurricane ~ (New Orleans)

hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / verb / violence

battery (recharge one's batteries)
recharge my batteries
I make sure I take time to ~
I asked for a leave of absence to ~

recharge his batteries
he resigned unexpectedly, saying he wanted to ~
he travels to South America to ~

recharge his batteries in the US
he will ~ (soccer star)

amelioration & renewal: electricity

battery (amount)
battery of tests
he took a ~

amount: weapon
**battle (verb)**

battled (in vain) to contain
as fire-fighters ~ it (museum fire)
battling the swarms with insecticide
authorities are ~ sprayed from airplanes (locusts)
battled for her life
she ~ on Sunday after a man shot her
battle for supremacy
cartels ~ in South Africa's taxi wars
battle against a (false) sense of complacency
we must ~
battled addiction
she has ~ all her life (an actor)
battled alcoholism
he ~ as a teen
battles (severe) asthma
he ~, which gets worse in stressful situations
battled the fire
for three hours we ~ (grass fire)
battled (ice-glazed) roads
commuters ~ (freezing rain)
battled the spread
critics have ~ of agricultural biotechnology
battling the (locust) swarms
authorities are ~ with insecticide sprayed from airplanes
battled windchills
they ~ of 20 below (North Dakota)
battle trafficking
Irmi Basu and her center ~ (sex / Calcutta)
battled in vain
as fire-fighters ~ to contain it... (museum fire)
cartels battle
~ for supremacy in South Africa's taxi wars

**conflict: military / verb**

**battle (noun)**

battle
for Japan, the ~ is one of national pride (whaling)
learn to pick your ~s (disciplining a toddler)
battle to curb
government's ~ the influence of graft (Serbia)
battles of identity
in ~, language often becomes the front line (Berbers)
battle of wills
expect another ~ all the way to the final wall (swimming)
battle of (former) champions
it was a ~ (boxing)
battle of the sexes
the theme of “I Love Lucy” was the basic ~
battles of the next generation
the civil rights ~ (animal rights)
battle against AIDS
celebrate the small victories in the ~
battle against assimilation
the age-old ~
battle against (entertainment) violence
a turning point in the ~
battles with (drug and alcohol) abuse
Ramone discussed his ~
battle with alcoholism
he had fought a long ~ (a suicide)
battle with AIDS
she told in a quiet voice of her ~
battle with cancer
a near-fatal ~
battle with Congress
a new front in the President’s ~ is opening
battles with unions and regulators
waging fierce ~
battle over the land
a lengthy court ~
battle over (reproductive) rights
the ~ (abortion)
battle over the terms
a legal ~ of the agreement
battle over the best method
the so-called reading wars—the ~ of teaching reading
battle between his (warring) parents
trapped in the ~
battle between defenders and detractors
the ~ of the traditional canon (literature)
battle between the school system, county
the ongoing budget ~
battle for answers
the one last battle, the ~ (Agent Orange)
battle for the championship
their ~ (basketball)
battles for (championship) crowns
their epic ~
battle for minds
this is a ~ (post 9/11)
battle for public opinion
losing the ~
battle for the thermostat
daily battles
there are ways to diffuse ~ and teach your toddler

battle scars
the ~ is waged in offices and homes across the nation
day in, day out battle
a ~ with beavers

government’s battle
endless battle
toilet training doesn’t have to be an ~

budget battle
battle scars
showing off ~ (football players)

an ongoing ~ between the school system, county
court battle

a long-running ~
custody battle
he was the object of a fierce ~
development battle
on the losing side of ~s
divorce battle
a bizarre last chapter in a ~ (townhouse explodes)
election battle
he is facing a difficult ~ (Germany)
epic battle
their ~s for championship crowns (sports)
their ~ with a mako (fishing)
their ~ Saturday night (Ward vs. Gatti / boxing)
kite battle
it’s time for the rokkaku ~ (kite festival)
turf battles
~ likely to ensue (federal agencies)

visitation battle
~s involving grandparents
textbook battles
~ are legendary in Texas
public relations battle
but is losing the ~

VHS-Beta battle
the ~ at the beginning of the video era

coming battle
he doesn’t have any illusions about the ~ (legislative act)

ongoing (budget) battle
an ~ between the school system, county

long-running battle
the ~ over the rights of …

pitched battle
his entering the race could lead to a ~ for the progressive vote

annual (funding) battles
~ on Capital Hill

bitter battles
she resigned last June after four years of ~ (university)

legal battle
~ over the terms of the agreement;
animal-rights groups have had ~s with the federal government

lengthy (court) battle
a ~ over the land

nightly battle
how can I get my toddler to brush her teeth without a ~

long, hard battle
it’s been a really ~ for me (cancer survivor)

age-old battle
the ~ against assimilation

near-fatal battle
a ~ with cancer
day in, day out battle
a ~ with beavers

David-and-Goliath battle
waging a ~ against Time Warner

heat-of-the-battle (m)
in the ~ racing (NASCAR)

object of a (fierce custody) battle
he was the ~

them-vs.-us battle
it’s a ~

aspect of the battle
redirected their attention to another ~ (anti-whaling)

epicenter of that battle
Birmingham became the ~ (for civil rights)

object of a (fierce custody) battle
he was the ~

years of (bitter) battles
she resigned last year after four ~ (university)
in the (President’s) battle
a new front ~ with Congress is opening

turning point in the battle
a ~ against entertainment violence
tantrums and battles
facing a (difficult election) battle
he is ~ (Germany)
lose this battle
they would ~ in the legislative arena
pick your battles
learn to ~ (disciplining a toddler)

battle (uphill battle, etc.)

long battle
he had fought a ~ with alcoholism (a suicide)
uiphill battle
it will be an ~ (political reform)
small businesses have faced an ~ (online vending)

facing an uphill battle
they are ~ (politics)
fought a (long) battle
he had ~ with alcoholism (a suicide)

difficulty, easiness & effort: military

battle cry

battle cry
an oft repeated ~ of the anti-chain lobby (books)

battlegrounds

battlegrounds of discontent
China's hospitals have become ~ (poor service)
battlegrounds in the (drug) business
hepatitis C is one of the fiercest ~ (drug development)
battleground for the future
the Gulf of Mexico is the ~ of offshore oil drilling
battleground for (freedom of speech) issues
college campuses are ~
battleground state
Ohio is a crucial ~ (elections)

beacon (noun)

beacon of hope
the center will be a ~ (Muhammad Ali Center)
the school is a ~ (in deprived Detroit neighborhood)
beacon of justice
the center’s reputation as a ~ had taken some hits (Southern Poverty Law Center)
beacons of faith and optimism
the old prairie churches were ~ (US)
beacon of liberty
the US is a ~, freedom and opportunity
beacon for (high-achieving) students
the school is a ~ (high school)

beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.)

Le Bec d’Aigle
~ is a giant rock overlooking the calanque (Eagle's Beak)
Parrot's Beak
the ~ juts into Vietnam from southeast Cambodia
the Mano River flows through the ~ area of Guinea

beak (area)

Eagles Beak
the ~ is a natural arch in Arizona

bear (a weight, etc.)

bear
the death of a child is almost too much to ~

bear (bear fruit, etc.)

bore fruit
their protests ~ only after…

bear (bear fruit, etc.)

bears Fruit
War on Piracy ~

**product: fruits & vegetables / verb**

**bear (bear pit)**

bear pit of the House of Commons
she stands tall in the ~
transformed the ring into a bear pit
he ~ and bullied his rival (boxing)

**conflict: animal / violence**

**bearbaiting**

form of (human) bearbaiting
a judge summed up the show as a ~ (Jeremy Kyle Show)

**conflict: animal / violence**

**bearing (direction)**

find his bearings
he spent two months trying to ~ and a job (new city)
lose your bearings
when you're homeless, you kind of ~
losing its bearings
the city is ~, it's heritage (development)
lost her bearings
she ~ in the pursuit of fame
get his bearings
it took him a while to ~ (a new job)
get his bearings back
it took him a while to ~ (stunned boxer)
regain my bearings
after the birth of my first child, it took me time to ~

**direction: journeys & trips / tools & technology**

**beast (insult)**

wild beast
those ~s shot you in the back (said at a funeral)

**insult: animal**

**beast (different beast, etc.)**

complex beasts
modern airliners are ~ (engineering, computers, etc.)
different beast
he insists his film is a ~ (sequel, not a reboot)
stubborn beast
Baranchyk, a ~, didn’t fall (exciting boxing match)

**taxonomy & classification: animal**

**beat (beat oneself up)**

beat yourself up
if you slip up or hit a plateau, don't ~ (weight loss)

beat yourself up over that
don't ~ (a performance mistake)

beat herself up for not being
she should not ~ around more to help her ailing mother

**punishment & recrimination: fist / verb**

**beat back (verb)**

beat back arthritis
he squeezes a golf ball at night to ~
beat back the epidemic
in an attempt to ~, the government is... (Luanda)
beat back (mounting) skepticism
she is trying to ~ of her qualifications

beat back dirt and disease
their lives, a daily struggle to ~ (Kabu slums)

fighting to beat back
Yahoo and AOL are ~ spammers

attempt to beat back
in an ~ the epidemic, the government is... (Luanda)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: fist / verb**

**beat (beat down)**

beat down on the (black) rocks
the sun ~ (Kilauea)
beat down relentlessly
the desert sun ~

**hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / verb / violence**

**beaten (beaten up)**

get beaten up
he knows he'll get attacked and ~ (politics)

**accusation & criticism: fist / violence**

**beatification (noun)**

beatification
his ~ has taken a long time (writer / literary canon)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion**

**beatify (verb)**

beatify all Northerners
she did not demonize all Southerners, or ~ (Stowe)

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb**

**beating (take a beating)**

taken a beating
she said her confidence had ~ (athlete)
the industry has ~ recently
the dollar has ~ abroad
its stock has ~ (a company)

took a beating
its reputation ~ in the financial crisis (rating service)
took a (serious) beating
the Democrats ~ in the midterm elections
taken a beating over its (contract) process
the Air Force has ~
taken a beating from the storms
the coastline has ~
taken a beating in the media
he has ~ (an athlete)

feeling, emotion & effect: fist / verb

beat up (verb)

beating up Texas
the rain and flooding is just ~ (ABC News)

hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / verb / violence

beaver (verb)

beavered at neural nets
AI scientists ~ for decades before...

beavering away
a small army of Canadian zealots was ~ at the case
our readers have been ~ (a prediction challenge)

difficulty, easiness & effort: animal / verb

work & duty: animal / verb

bed (put something to bed)

put to bed
a successful launch will help ~ memories of the problems
put this (silly) incident to bed
we need to ~ (sports controversy)

starting, going, continuing & ending: sleep / verb

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: sleep / verb

bed (jump into bed with someone)

jump into bed with the Syrian government
the Kurds don’t immediately want to ~

allegiance, support & betrayal: love, courtship & marriage / verb

bedevil (verb)

bedeviled the governor
the scandal ~

bedeviled the (Democratic) nominee
the story ~ right up until election day

bedevils the people
corruption ~

affliction: creature / religion / verb

bedeviled

bedeviled by the (sluggish) economy

he found himself ~ (president)

bedeviled by (technical) problems
the company has been ~ (autos)

bedeviled by a lack
the response effort was ~ of organization

affliction: creature / religion

bedfellow (companion)

unlikely bedfellows
a new album combines ~ (romantic / avant-garde)

relationship: love, courtship & marriage

bedlam

bedlam of the city
the ~ recedes (in a courtyard garden)

bedlam in the streets
there was ~ (World Cup victory)

construction bedlam
he surveyed the ~ (restaurant being built)

political bedlam
the system breeds ~ (government)

bedlam ensued
the announcement was made, and ~

bedlam engulfed the fans
~ (a victory)

♦ According to Wikipedia, this word comes from Bethlem Royal Hospital in England. It was one of the first institutions to house the insane.

behavior / environment: mental health

bedrock (noun)

bedrock of who we are
quality is the ~ (Boeing)

bedrock of our storytelling tradition
these 100 stories are a ~ (the Decameron by Boccaccio)

bedrock belief
it’s a ~ of mine (people have souls, animals don’t)

bedrock policy
keeping employee costs down is a ~ (a retail giant)

bedrock principle
a ~ of American governance is civilian control of the military
innocent until proven guilty is one of our country’s ~s

bedrock value
he brought some ~s to the job (cop) (right / wrong)
the ~s that make America unique (freedom of religion)

bedrock of safety
the ~

bases: ground, terrain & land
bedroom (sex)
bedroom issues
the church doesn’t know what it’s talking about on ~
sex: bedroom
euphemism: sex
bee (the birds and the bees)
know about the birds and the bees
does she ~
talk about the birds and the bees
I finally had that ~ with my son
◊ “Daddy, why is that turtle on top of that other turtle?” (A cute commercial that shows a child watching a wildlife show on TV with his Dad. His dad is not able to reply.)
sex: insect
euphemism: sex
bee (busy as a bee)
as busy as a bee
he was ~
activity: animal / insect
beef up (verb)
beefed up (border) controls
the US has ~ (against smuggling)
strength & weakness: meat / verb
beehive (activity)
beehive
the military hospital was a ~ (heavily guarded)
beehive of activity
inside, these buildings were a ~ (hospital)
activity / environment: insect
beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.)
Beehive cluster
M44, the ~
proper name: insect
before (future)
before us
we have hard work ~
future: direction
beginning (progress)
beginning
it’s just the ~ (first picture of black hole in space)
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement
starting, going, continuing & ending; journeys & trips / movement
behemoth
behemoth among (federal) agencies
the Department of Defense is a ~
online (classifieds) behemoth
the ~, Craigslist…
economic behemoth
China has emerged as an ~
political behemoth
other candidates understand that he is a ~ (Joe Biden)
pop-culture behemoth
the ~ Game of Thrones
lactating behemoths
Holsteins are ~ (versus Ankole cattle)
2,300-page behemoth
it is a ~ (a government act)
four-billion-dollar (accessories) behemoth
Coach is a ~ (fashion)
built the company into a behemoth
he ~ (security)
spells the end for a behemoth
the decision to pull the show ~ that dominated schedules
◊ The Behemoth was a huge land monster mentioned in the Book of Job. Its aquatic counterpart was the Leviathan. Both creatures were controlled by God, and symbolized God’s power.
size: allusion / Bible / creature / religion
behind (behind schedule, etc.)
behind on payments
we were ~
behind schedule
they were now almost 2 months ~
falls behind
Faisal ~ (worker at Dairy Queen)
fell behind on a (key) module
later, as Russia ~ (space station)
fell behind in his mortgage
he ~ (money woes)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction
behind (progress)
behind in school
he is way ~
behind the (learning) curve
we were well ~ (for a military operation)
way behind
he is ~ in school
well behind
we were ~ the learning curve (for a military operation)
lag behind
  women ~ men in the most visible arenas of science
lagging (far) behind
  US students are ~ (education)
left behind
  the poor are ~ (services go to wealthy)
fall behind
  we want to keep up and not ~ (government official)
fallen behind at Fremont
  he had ~, not just in history but... (school)
fell behind by 3 years
  our program ~ (space)
prevent students from falling behind
  ~ (school)
doomed to fall behind
  they are ~ (certain categories of students)

**progress & lack of progress: direction**

**behind (in the past)**

behind
  the team's best days are ~ (sports)
behind her
  now it's all ~ (wild lifestyle)
behind it
  the 100th mission is ~ (space shuttles)
behind us
  now that this is ~, we can move forward (divorce)
it is tempting to believe the danger is ~ (terrorism)

get the case behind him
  he just wanted to ~ (object of criminal investigation)
left his old life behind
  he ~
put his old life behind him
  he tried to ~
put their differences behind them
  they sought to ~ (diplomacy)
put their (money) problems behind them
  her new job ~

♦ “Now that that is in the rear-view mirror...” (Behind us.)
♦ “That's all water under the bridge.”

**past & present: direction**

**behind (basis)**

behind the bombing
  no one knows who is ~
behind this decision
  what could be ~
behind these new levels

what are the causes ~ of stress (colleges)
idea behind the program
  the ~ was to...
logic behind (military) training
  the hidden ~
motivation behind the attack
  the ~ seems to be to...
personalities behind the inventions
  the exhibition is an attempt to bring to life the ~
reasoning behind this
  the ~ is that...
story behind the plaque
  do you know the ~
theory behind this practice
  the ~ is that...
driving force behind development
  economics is usually the ~ (zoning)
driving force behind globalization
  the ~
driving force behind the (new) policy
  he is a ~ (a doctor)
driving force behind hostess bars
  ultimately money is the ~ (Roppongi)

lies behind
  inequality in incomes ~ the divisiveness of our politics
what ~ human behavior

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

**behind (support)**

behind it
  the government has to get ~ and the Prime Minister is
  against it (a proposal)
behind you
  I'm ~ (I support you)

get behind the development
  it's time we ~ of renewable energy

**allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle**

**behind (put something behind)**

behind me
  they tell me I have to put Nick's death ~ (grieving widow)
put this behind us
  we've got to ~ and move on with our lives (after disaster)

**resiliency: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb**

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: direction / prep, adv, adj / verb**

**behind-the-scenes**

behind-the-scenes
a ~ of world hegemony

behind-the-scenes controversy
haft with ~

behind-the-scenes documentary
a ~ (making of a film)

behind-the-scenes negotiations
~ failed

behind-the-scenes role
his ~

behind-the-scenes strategist

behind-the-scenes workers
a cadre of ~ (state fair)

behind-the-scenes lobbying
months of ~

close concealment & lack of concealment: theater

belch (verb)

belched up
a great cloud of steam ~ through the hatch (burst pipe)

belched forth smoke, ash and lava
the volcano ~

belched from the smokestacks
black smoke ~

belched (diesel) exhaust
trucks ~

belched smoke
the engine ~ (coal-fired)

resemblance: bodily process / verb

believer (true believer)

true believer in the cause
she was a ~ (Irish Republican Army)

progressive true believers
the ~ who flocked to Mr Sanders in 2016 (politics)

allegiance, support & betrayal: allusion
identity & nature: allusion
commitment & determination: allusion

bell (warning)

alarm bell

civil rights activists sounded the ~s

warning bell
spiraling suicide rates sound a ~

ring (any) bells
one case doesn't usually ~ (epidemics)

sounded the alarm bells
environmentalist have ~ (pollution in Lake Baikal)
civil rights activists ~

sound a warning bell
spiraling suicide rates ~

warning: bell

bell (bells and whistles)

bell and whistle
$3,200 for a top of the line model with every ~ (a toilet)

bells and whistles
it has more ~ than a fire engine (sports watch)

appearance: train

bell (unring a bell)

unring a bell
you can't ~ that has already been rung

starting, going, continuing & ending: bell / verb

reversal: bell / verb

bell curve (shape)

distribution of a bell curve
the scores have the ~

shape: bell

bellwether

bellwether election
Democrats are fretting about losing a ~

bellwether of (global) conservation efforts
island initiatives are a ~

bellwether of (economic) health
the housing market is seen as a ~ by many (US)

bellwether of (African) progress
Ghana again became a ~ (peace, democracy)

bellwether for the condition
small businesses have become a ~ of the US economy

bellwether for the industry
the labor talks could serve as a ~ (airline unions)

♦ A wether is a ram leading a flock of sheep. The shepherd attaches a bell around the ram's neck, to indicate the location of the flock.

direction: sheep

belly (orientation)

belly of a tank
the slug punches a hole in the ~

belly landing
he questioned whether a ~ would work (space shuttle)

orientation: stomach

belly flop (noun)

prime-time belly flop
her speech was a ~

failure, accident & impairment: sports & games / water
**belly-up (adjective)**

belly-up
we had plenty of excuses to go ~
went belly-up
the company ~ (failed)
♦ This refers to a dead fish.

*failure, accident & impairment: fish*

**below (behavior)**

below you
that’s ~

*bhv: prep, adv, adj, particle*

**belt (area)**

belt of ice
in winter a 600-mile-wide ~ seals off Antarctica
belt of (coniferous) forests
the taiga—the huge circumpolar ~

*Bible Belt
Atlanta versus the surrounding ~ (strip clubs)*

Black Belt
the ~, an impoverished region of the rural South (US)
banana belt
the lush ~ of southern Ecuador
farm belt
Louisiana’s ~

*mineral belt
a large ~ west of Albuquerque*

radiation belt
the ~ of earth

snow belt
few move from the sun belt to the ~ (US)

*ecologically diverse (transition) belt
this remote, fragile, and ~ between forest and steppe*

*circumpolar belt
the taiga—the huge ~ of coniferous forests*

*semi-arid belt
the Sahel, a ~ that spans Africa just below the Sahara*

25-mile belt
oil fields clustered along a ~ between Basra, Kuwait

*area: shape*

**belt (below the belt)**

belt
he’s known for hitting ~ (politics)

*bhv: boxing
restraint & lack of restraint: boxing*

**belt (under one's belt)**

one expedition (to Gasherbrum II) under his belt
he had ~

7 deployments under his belt
he has ~ (first sergeant)

6,000 jumps under his belt
a skydiver with ~

25 years (of Forest Service work) under his belt
he has ~

*ex: clothing & accessories*

**belt-tightening**

belt-tightening at the Pentagon
he will announce a new round of ~

belt-tightening measures
the school will also take ~ like…

*corporate belt-tightening
recent years of ~

*fiscal belt-tightening
in an age of ~*

*sacrifice: food & drink*

**beneath (behavior)**

beneath me
that’s ~

*bhv: prep, adv, adj, particle*

**bench (verb)**

bench him
the channel decided to ~

*dismissal, removal & resignation: sports & games / verb*

**benchmark (at a benchmark)**

at or near that benchmark
these year’s figures already are ~ (female graduates)

*measurement: mark*

**benchmark (other)**

benchmark
it is a ~ that we must keep in mind

benchmark of skill
I consider the Green Narrows as a ~ (kayaking)

benchmark for toughness
support for capital punishment is a ~ for politicians

benchmark indicator
use objective criteria to establish ~s (environment)

benchmark run
the Green Narrows is a ~ in the Southeast (kayaking)
standards and benchmarks
   we are working on meeting ~ for curricula (education)

barriers and benchmarks
   when it comes to ~, snowboarding has the 1440° spin

established (climbing’s new) benchmark
   the man who ~ (Tomaz Humar (south face of Dhaulagiri))

performance benchmark
   it ranks first on three of the industry’s leading ~s

reached (all) the benchmarks
   he ~ on or close to schedule (child development)

set the benchmark
   she ~ in 1996 (time spent in space)

♦ The round metal USGS plaques on mountaintops are benchmarks that indicate height above sea level.

measurement: mark

bend (bend over backwards)

bends over backwards to be
   the staff ~ cooperative
bending over backwards to comply
   we are ~ with the rules
bends over backwards being
   he ~ polite
difficulty, easiness & effort: standing, sitting & lying / verb

bend (verb)

bend to demands
   Shiites refuse to ~ by Sunnis that...
bend the government to their will
   local leaders who wish to ~
refuse to bend
   Shiites ~ to demands by Sunnis that...
caused him to bend
   the threat ~ but not break

difficulty, easiness & effort: standing, sitting & lying / verb

beneath

beneath the dignity
   is anything ~ of the Obama White House (politics)
beneath you
   that’s way ~ (her reaction to his rude proposal)

behavior: direction

Bermuda Triangle

Bermuda Triangle of airspeed
   transonic is the unknow, it is the ~ (flying)
certainty & uncertainty: allusion / history

berserk

went berserk
   the elephant ~ and killed its trainer
   the 200-pound chimpanzee ~ and was shot dead by police
   he hit a home run, and the crowd ~ (sports)
   she ~ and stormed out (angry and upset)

behavior: mental health
control & lack of control: mental health

besiege (verb)

besieged (northern) Mexico
   violence has ~

amount & effect: military / verb

besieged

besieged by email
   she has been ~
besieged by lobbyists
   Congress is ~
besieged by the media
   he was ~
besieged by questions
   doctors have been ~ from patients
besieged by reporters
   he has been ~
besieged by (corruption) scandals
   his government has been ~
besieged politicians
   the ~ have started a counterattack (politics)

amount & effect: military

betray (verb)

betrayed an erosion
   the recrimination ~ of confidence (Israeli raid)
betrayed a hint
   neither man ~ of anxiety
betray a (profound) ignorance
   animal rightists ~ about nature (opinion)

evidence: verb

concealment & lack of concealment: verb

between (come between, etc.)

come between them and their mom
   the only thing that would ~ was death (murdered mom and kids)
division & connection: prep, adv, adj, particle

Bible (authority)

Bible of sports
   the ~ on the Internet (Internet site)
Bible of (psychiatric) diagnosis
according to the ~, the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual

Bible of the (social-media) movement
the ~ is Clay Shirky’s "Here Comes Everybody"

bible of psychiatry
the DSM—the ~

Bible of Boxing
The Ring magazine, the ~

so-called bible
the DSM, the ~ of psychiatry…

psychiatric bible
the DSM is the ~ for mental disorders

♦ The DSM is the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders.

sanctioning, authority, & non-conformity: Bible / religion

big (verb)
big his career up
he’s just trying to ~
big himself up
he’s just trying to ~ by using someone else’s grief
big yourself up
do you really need to ~ by...

increase & decrease: size / verb

big (big name, etc.)
big names
some ~ have not made official announcements yet (election)

importance & significance: size

big bang (in a big bang)
go out in a big bang
he wanted ~ (suicide)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: astronomy / sound

Big Brother
Big Brother intrusion
why cave in to such a ~ on your privacy

oppression: allusion

big gun (and heavy gun)
big gun
they didn’t have their ~s tonight (injured players)
he has brought in another ~ to help in his Senate bid

heavy gun
he is bringing out his ~s (wife and family / scandal)

♦ “Big guns” refer to artillery. Such guns, whether land based or mounted on ships, were huge technological marvels that inspired respect and fear. By the end of World War II, however, such large-bore artillery was practically obsolete. Nowadays, militaries rely on missiles, which are much smaller.

♦ “The Turks have 12-inch guns at Aqaba, Sir. Can you imagine what that means?” (Lawrence of Arabia, the film.)

strength & weakness: weapon

bighearted

big-hearted personality
he was known for his ~
bighearted, (supremely) patient man
he was a ~ (speech therapist)

character & personality: heart

size: heart

heart: size

big-league

big-league hotel
it’s a ~ with a celebrity chef

big-league philanthropy
~ has its critics (Gates, Buffet, Zuckerber, etc.)

big-league politician
he’s a ~

importance & significance: sports & games

big shot

big-shot (Hollywood) director
he’s a ~

children of big shots
~ and university admissions

power: weapon

bill of health (clean bill of health)
clean bill of health
the bank was given a ~ (by auditors)
gives them a clean bill of health
the E.P.A. still ~ (chemicals in tap water)
give investments a clean bill of health
analysts felt pressured to ~ or lose business
received a clean bill of health
the reservoir ~ from inspectors (prior to collapse)

♦ This phrase probably relates to ships in foreign ports. Such ships would be in quarantine until port officials determined that the crew was not carrying an infectious disease.

condition & status: health & medicine

billy club

psychological billy club
it’s a ~ to coerce a person (lie-detector test)

coercion & motivation: weapon

oppression: weapon

bind (in a bind)

leaving cities in a bind
a police shortage is ~
put it in a bind
Pakistan’s support for militants has ~

**situation:** container / rope

**bind (constraint)**

double bind

too sweet or two shrill, the ~ for women

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

**bind (constrain)**

bind her

she questions the traditions that ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope / verb**

**bind (connect)**

bind

the ties that ~

bind the characters

the ties that ~ gradually become clear

binds us to where

making wine ~ we are (California)

build and bind

book clubs can help ~ communities

**division & connection: rope / verb**

attachment: rope / verb

**binding (adjective)**

binding changes

there are these legally ~ from Brussels (Brexit)

**non-binding referendum**

Puerto Rico voted for US statehood in a ~

**constraint & lack of constraint: rope**

**binge (on a binge)**

on a building binge

China has been ~ for decades (infrastructure)

gone on a (hiring) binge

the company has ~

**restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol**

behavior: alcohol

**binge (other)**

binge

the ~ is over (spending by elected officials)

the ~ was epic and so is the hangover (housing market)

binge of (skate-park) construction

the city continued the ~ (NYC)

binge flying

London seeks to curb "~" (airport expansions)

gone on a (spending) binge

the Democrats have ~

**restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol**

behavior: alcohol

**bird (the birds and the bees)**

talk about the birds and the bees

I finally had that ~ with my son

know about the birds and the bees

does she ~

♦ "Daddy, why is that turtle on top of that other turtle?" (A cute commercial that shows a child watching a wildlife show on TV with his Dad. His dad is not able to reply.)

**sex: bird**

**bird-dog (verb)**

bird-dogged him

we ~ at press conferences (Chicago protestor / mayor)

**affliction: dog**

**bird's-eye (bird's-eye view)**

bird's-eye view of the battlefield

drones give commanders a ~

bird's-eye view from a plane

you get a ~

♦ This has morphed to "helicopter view," a "3,000-foot perspective," and "the 30,000-foot level."

**perception, perspective & point of view: animal / bird / position**

**birth (creation)**

birth of Pakistan

since the ~ in 1947

movement's birth

the city of their ~ (Kandahar / Taliban)

nation's birth

Sunnis have dominated politics since the ~ in 1920 (Iraq)

given birth

Atlanta has ~ to a new generation of rappers (US)

**creation & transformation: birth**

**birthday (creation)**

France’s birthday

July 14 is ~

**creation & transformation: birth**

**birthed (created)**

birthed in the mid to early 2000’s

the movement was most likely ~ by two men (MGTOW)

**creation & transformation: birth**

**birthplace**

birthplace of democracy

Greece, the ~
birthplace of Islam
  Saudi Arabia, the ~
birthplace of humanity
  Africa is the ~

_origin: birth / epithet

_bit (champ at the bit)
champing at the bit to start
  he was ~

_eagerness & reluctance: horse / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: horse

_bite (bite back, etc.)
bite the president
  a lot of that conduct and those words may come back to ~

_reversal: animal / teeth / verb

_biting
biting cold
  once the ~ arrives
biting (social) critic
  he was a ~
biting sanctions
  these are the most ~ every imposed

_sensation: teeth / animal

_bitten (enthusiasm)
bitten by the action bug
  as a boy, he was ~
bitten by the cycling bug
  as a youth he played soccer before he was ~

_enthusiasm: health & medicine

_bitter (personality)
bitter
  he isn’t ~, just wiser
bitter, angry and hostile
  he was ~ (sick man with undiagnosed illness)

_angry, bitter (m)
  I’ve talked to amputees that went through a real ~ stage
became bitter
  he ~ to the point of suicidal (soldier back from Iraq)

♦ Don’t be bitter, be better!

_feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste
_character & personality: food & drink / taste

_bitter (bitter weather, etc.)
bitter cold
  they escaped into the ~ (house fire in winter)
bitter winds

~ from Manchuria
bitter (Balkan) winter
  the ~

_sensation: food & drink / taste

_bitter (a bitter blow, etc.)
bitter battles
  she resigned last June after four years of ~ (university)
bitter blow
  the defeat was a ~ for Serbia and Montenegro (soccer)
bitter (political) climate
  the increasingly ~ ahead of elections next summer
bitter (international) controversy
  despite the ~ (oil project)
bitter disappointment
  he proved to be a ~ (a judge)
  but a ~ awaited us… (expedition)
bitter dispute
  they are locked in a ~ over Kashmir
bitter end
  she maintained her innocence to the ~
  it’s a ~ to a pioneering, powerful career (prison)
bitter enemies
  Ethiopia and Eritrea, ~… (fighting proxy war in Somalia)
bitter fact
  car-jacking is a ~ of life
bitter feelings
  Iranians have ~ towards Saddam Hussein
bitter irony
  in a ~, female military personnel guard captured Taliban
bitter memories
  helped erase ~ of the 1994 players strike (baseball)
bitter negotiations
  flight attendants are engaged in ~ with the company
bitter (late-night) negotiations
  after ~
bitter taste
  the ~ of regret (bad decisions)
bitter (family) power struggle
  he is kept on the throne because of a ~
bitter and long-running (m)
  the bloody culmination of a ~ feud (cop / citizen)
long and bitter (m)
  a ~ family feud over the estate of Jimi Hendrix

_feeling, emotion & effect: taste

_bittersweet

bittersweet
the recognition was ~ (combat soldier who survived)
the victory was ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste**

**black (Black Sea, etc.)**

Black Sea
Turkey has coast on the ~

Black Volta
the ~ is a tributary of the Volta River

proper name: color

**black (feeling)**

black depression
he fell into a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: color**

**blackball (verb)**

blackball him
he has accused teams of colluding to ~ (an athlete)

acceptance & rejection: color / mark / society / verb
oppression: color / mark / society / verb

**black box (noun)**

black box
the military is a ~, you never know what’s going on
they are like ~s whose inner workings are mysterious (brain)

access & lack of access: astronomy
isolation & remoteness: astronomy
consciousness & awareness: astronomy

**blacklist (verb)**

blacklist the (Chinese) company
the decision to ~ was seen as a bargaining ploy (tariffs)

acceptance & rejection: color / mark / society / verb
oppression: color / mark / society / verb

**black out (verb)**

blacked out
I ~ (alcohol)

consciousness & awareness: alcohol / color / verb

**black sheep**

black sheep of the family
he’s the ~
I was the ~ and took the wrong direction (gang)

black-sheep brother
invite the ~ to the wedding

character & personality: sheep

**blanket (verb)**

blanketed (much of) the Northwest in ash
the eruption ~ (volcano)
blanketed the city with (orange) dust
the huge sandstorm ~ (Beijing / 2010)
blanketed the Southeast
forests ~ before European settlers arrived
blanketed the area
federal, state and local police ~ (manhunt)
blanketed (several) cities
snow and ice ~
blanketed mountains
snow ~ in the UAE, a rare occurrence

configuration / cover: blanket / cloth / verb

**blanket (under a blanket)**

under the blanket of snow
polar plants and animals ~

configuration / cover: cloth / blanket

**blanket (cover)**

blanket of ash
a ~ covered the orange and lemon trees (eruption)
blanket of clouds
a ~ hid Pumori, Ama Dablam, and other lesser peaks

collection / cover: blanket / cloth

blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)

blanket amnesty
he has offered a ~ to the soldiers (New Guinea)
he does not favor a ~ for illegal immigrants

blanket guarantee
is that a ~ that...

blanket policy
airlines handle it on a case-by-case basis, without a ~

blanket statement
it is a ~ that is just not right

extent & scope: cloth / blanket

blanketed

blanketed by (lush) forests
Haiti was once ~ (now 90% deforested)

configuration / cover: cloth / blanket

blaring (headlines, etc.)

blaring headlines
~, fleshy photos and breathless coverage (a tabloid)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound

blasphemy

committing blasphemy
is he ~ by... (analysis of war strategy)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

blast (verb)

blasted him for taking
they ~this position (politics)

blasted her
her critics ~ (politics)

blasted his predecessor
Obama finally ~ by name

accusation & criticism: force / military / verb / weapon

speech: verb / weapon

blasted apart

canon has been blasted apart
but that ~ (doctors withhold prognosis)

destruction: explosion

blaze (verb)

blazed
thank you, Penny Marshall, for the trails you ~

importance & significance: history / journeys & trips

blaze (in a blaze of glory)

gone out in a blaze of glory
he ~ (Custer)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: fire / light

bleed (verb)

bled across borders
the crisis has ~ (terrorism)

bleeding us dry
this price war is ~ (destroying our profits)

bleeding jobs
US manufacturing have been ~

bleeding money
the school was ~ (troubled charter school)

bleeding

leaking: blood / verb

bleed (noun)

talent bleed
the conventional explanation for ~ is... (military)

stanch the (talent) bleed
if the Army hopes to ~, it needs to...

leaking: blood

bleeding

financial bleeding
you need to stop your ~ now

leaking: blood

blemish (noun)

blemish on the game
his injury was the only ~ (sports)

ugly blemish
the Charlottesville tragedy was “an ~” on [the US]

flaws & lack of flaws: mark

blend in (verb)

blend in
Tom Wolfe did not ~ (clothes, writing)

easily blend in
drug traffickers ~ (Atlanta)

concealment & lack of concealment: mixture / verb

attention, scrutiny & promotion: mixture / verb

blessed

blessed
with sun and wind, California is ~ (renewable energy)

blessed with (over) 100 waterfalls
Sri Lanka is ~

blessed with good looks and money
she wasn't just ~, she was also smart

cost & benefit: religion
blessing (sanction)

with the city's blessing
~, cars pair up for duels (legal drag racing)
given the vote its blessing
the election board has ~
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
blessing (benefit)
blessing
the seasonal flooding of the Mekong is a ~, not a curse
blessing or a bane
oil can be a ~ for a country (corruption, etc.)
blessing and a burden
patients see choice as both a ~
blessing and a curse
these gems have been a ~ (Sierra Leone diamonds)
the annual rains are a ~ for the subcontinent (floods)
mixed blessing
progress has been a ~
cost & benefit: religion
worth & lack of worth: religion
blight (verb)
blighted (Aboriginal) communities
alcohol and poverty have ~ (Northern Territory)
blights the present
history ~ (Balkans)
corruption: plant / verb
blight (noun)
urban blight
the group is devoted to fighting ~ (buildings)
corruption: plant
blighted
blighted economy
as Greece's ~ plunges further into the abyss
blighted neighborhoods
the city's ~
corruption: plant
blind (noticing, understanding, judging)
blind to merit
the military personnel system is nearly ~
blind to race, religion and ethnicity
the state is ~ (French ideal)
blind to (all) reason and decency
terrorists are ~
blind, deaf and dumb
terrorists are ~ to all reason and decency
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye
consciousness & awareness: eye
blind (hard to see, hidden)
blind curve
~ (sign)
blind drop
please scout ~s (kayaker Edward Lee Green)
blind spot
deserts can produce ~s (radio signal strength)
face blind
some people are ~ (can't recognize familiar faces)
sight: eye
blind (disregarding evidence, logic)
blind faith
he had this ~ in me (defensive coach)
blind hatred
terrorists are driven by ~
blind optimism
hope is not ~ (Barak Obama)
corruption: plant / verb
commitment & determination: eye
blind (not controlled by intelligence)
blind draw
one judge becomes a substitute in a ~
fate, fortune & chance: eye
blind (flying blind)
blind (flying blind)
the psychiatrist is ~ (treating soldiers with drugs)
the US economy is ~ (during government shutdown)
corruption: plant / verb
consciousness & awareness: plane
blind (flying blind)
blind alley (noun)
ran into blind alleys
he ~ (a scientist)
success & failure: infrastructure / journeys & trips
progress & lack of progress: infrastructure / journeys & trips
blind date
blind date
  I was on a ~ with this great guy

sight: eye
blinded
blinded by love
  I was so ~ that I didn't see the problem in front of me

consciousness & awareness: eye
perception, perspective & point of view: eye
blinder (noun)
narrow blinders
  it takes self-awareness to view the world without ~

viewed through the blinders
  every issue is ~ of a particular interest (government)
♦ Blinders are the same as blinkers.

perception, perspective & point of view: eye / horse
consciousness & awareness: eye / horse
blinding
blinding sandstorm
  another day of ~s and battlefield confusion (Iraq)

a ~ in Baghdad forced the postponement of…

blinding whiteout
  a snowstorm caused a ~ (50-vehicle pileup)
sight: eye
blindly
blindly committed
  the IMF is ~ to the policy of…

commitment & determination: eye
blind side (from the blind side)
blind side
  fire team approaches the bunker from its ~

sight: eye
blindsided
blindsided by his action
  we were ~

blindsided by Johnson’s announcement
  the Lakers were clearly ~ (“Magic” Earvin resigns)

blindside by (nude-photos) leak
  Jennifer Lawrence ~

readiness & preparedness: eye
consciousness & awareness: eye
blind spot
blind spot
  it’s a ~ so enormous we barely notice it (concern for future)

ethical blind spot
  he has an ~ regarding the appearance of impropriety

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye
consciousness & awareness: eye
perception, perspective & point of view: eye

blink (verb)
blink
  America will not ~ in the fight against terrorists
  there’s a conflict here and somebody has to ~ (politics)

blinking
  Obama ~ and then backed down (Syria crosses red line)

dominance & submission: eye / gesture / verb
conflict: eye / gesture / verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye
feeling, emotion & effect: eye

blink (in the blink of an eye)
in the blink of an eye
  and ~ it let go (cougar attack)
speed: eye

blink (light)
blinking
  its lights
  a Mercedes ~

appearance & disappearance: bodily process / verb

blinker (adjective)
blinker denial
  his ~ of what is obvious tells us all we need to know

blinker narrow-mindedness
  if only the Western media could shed its ~
♦ Blinders are the same as blinkers.

perception, perspective & point of view: horse / eye
consciousness & awareness: horse / eye

blistering
blistering comment
  a ~ came from….

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation
blitz
blitz by the White House
  the news precipitated a public-relations ~

blitz of (negative) advertising
  there has been a ~ (politics)

blitz surrounding her (latest) album
  the promotional ~

blitz chess
  Carlsen beat Karpov in a game of ~

media blitz
a local ~ keeps her picture on the front pages (missing)

publicity blitz
a ~ arranged by advisers (for a politician)

public-relations blitz
the news precipitated a ~ by the White House

advertising blitz
a lavish ~ (for Microsoft software)

promotional blitz
the ~ surrounding her latest album (singer)

waging a (full-scale media) blitz
he has been ~ (ex-politician promotes his book)

campaign: military / weapon
amount & effect: military / weapon

blizzard (consciousness)
feeling their way in a blizzard
financial analysts are ~, squinting through the snow

consciousness & awareness: snow & ice / weather & climate

blizzard (noun)
blizzard of (red, white and blue) confetti
a ~ (New Years in Time Square)

blizzard of fire
there was a ~ at the intersection (combat)

blizzard of punches
he has withstood a ~ (a boxer)

blizzard of (new) regulations
businesspeople have been affected by a ~

blizzard of speculation
there has been a ~ (honeymoon murder)

blizzard of facts and figures
it is included in a ~ that obscures…

♦ “The blizzard was what we called a purga, during which the temperature can drop well below zero, with the gale so violent that it will lift roofs off houses and uproot trees. Walking during a purga is out of the question. As a rule every blizzard is accompanied by loss of life. / Around us the scene was unbelievable. The wind raged with the utmost violence, smashing off branches of trees, lifting them into the air like feathers. Huge cedars rocked from side to side like saplings. Nothing was visible, neither mountains, nor sky, nor earth, everything enveloped in the roaring whirlwind of snow. For a moment I seemed almost to detect the outline of the nearest tree, just visible through the blinding snow, but only for an instant. Another gust and the misty picture vanished. / We shrank back in our tents and sat in silent awe…” (Dersu Uzala by V. K. Arseniev.)

amount & effect: snow & ice / storm

bloated (size)
bloated budget
the US must resolve its ~

bloated bureaucracy
the ~ isn’t keeping us safer (national security)

bloated and inefficient
our intelligence agencies are ~

refugee-bloated (m)
a ~ population

size: fatness & thinness

blockbuster
blockbuster
the modern age of ~s (films)
blockbuster antidepressant
Prozac, its ~ (drug company)
blockbuster (IMAX) film
the ~ Everest
blockbuster (fraud) suit
the agency brought a ~ against the company

blockbuster writer
such ~s as…
* Blockbusters were high-explosive bombs dropped on cities in World War II.

success & failure: explosion / weapon
feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / weapon
amount & effect: explosion / weapon

blogosphere (in the blogosphere)
in the blogosphere
the videos appear to be firmly entrenched ~

computer: earth & world
blogosphere (other)
blogosphere
the ~ is alight with conspiracy theories
percolating (for years) around the blogosphere
the argument has been ~

computer: earth & world

blood (in one’s blood)
in my blood
it wasn’t ~ (working in family business)
this place is ~ (High Street resident / Newark)
in our blood
cricket is ~ (A Pakistani fan)
The love of jade is ~ (a Han Chinese)

gets in your blood
it ~ (helping others at Arlington National Cemetery)

♦ “The city is in my blood, the ruins of its palaces, the mosques and the river.” (An Iraqi, speaking of Baghdad.)
♦ “He has aviation fuel running through his veins.” Said of an ex-RAF, ex-BA pilot who flies airshows.

identity & nature: blood
blood (in cold blood)
shoot her (3 times) in cold blood
how could he ~...

feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature

blood (blood on one's hands, etc.)
blood on his hands
he has ~ (terrorist financier)
blood on their hands
we say they have ~ (companies that used slaves)

has blood on his hands
he ~ (a politician)
drenched Russia in blood
he has ~ (Stalin)
guilt: blood / hand
involvement: blood / hand

blood (smell blood)
smell blood
they ~ (victory in tournament)

smells blood
the opposition Labor Party ~ (vote of no confidence)

smell blood in the water
Republicans ~
predation: animal / blood / verb
conflict: animal / blood / verb

blood (out for blood)
out for blood
she is ~ (vindictive)
punishment & recrimination: animal / blood / predation
predation: animal / blood
conflict: animal / blood

blood (draw blood)
drawn blood
nobody has ~ yet (chess match with 8 draws)
predation: animal / blood
conflict: animal / blood

blood (blood boils)
blood boils
my ~ when I see violations (traffic)

feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature

blood (blood runs cold)
made my blood run cold
and then he said something that ~ (violence)

feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature

blood (young blood, etc.)
fresh blood
the king might reshuffle his cabinet to inject ~
young blood
the US must add ~ to its veteran roster (women’s soccer)

experience: blood

blood (bad blood)
bad blood between them
there is ~

conflict: blood

blood (effort)
sweat and blood
a lot of ~ went into it (making a film)
difficulty, easiness & effort: blood

blood (blood represents life)
treasure and blood
how much more can we give in ~ (foreign wars)
decision: blood / sign, signal, symbol

bloodbath
bloodbath
there’s going to be a ~ (a football game)
bloodbath in tech stocks
there was a ~ (Dow)

partisan bloodbath
he turned the hearings into a ~ (politics)

conflict: blood / violence

violence: blood

blood sport (noun)
blood sport
when law and politics were a noble pursuit, not a ~ (the past)
blood sport of politics
I would not be deterred by the ~ (Hillary R. Clinton)
+ Blood sports include dog fighting, bullfighting, fox-hunting, cockfighting, and bear-baiting.

conflict: animal / blood / predation / sports & games

bloodthirsty
bloodthirsty zeal
the ~ of revisionist history

behavior: animal / blood / predation

character & personality: animal / blood / predation

bloody (guilty)

hands are bloody
his ~ (a politician)
guilt: blood

bloom (verb)
bloomed
their relationship ~
membership (in professional social networks) has ~
his career has ~
romance ~
his paranoia ~
bloomed in the role
she truly ~ (an actor)
bloomed into an international incident
the case has ~
bloomed into a showroom
his small home shop has ~
bloomed during the last decade
interest has ~ (new literature theory)
bloomed as a teenager
she ~ (physically)
bloomed intellectually
that year our daughter ~ (in a gifted class)
bloomed late
their careers both ~ (successful athletes)
bloomed in the role
she truly ~ (an actor)
bloomed into an international incident
the case has ~
bloomed into a showroom
his small home shop has ~
bloomed during the last decade
interest has ~ (new literature theory)
bloomed as a teenager
she ~ (physically)
bloomed intellectually
that year our daughter ~ (in a gifted class)
bloomed late
their careers both ~ (successful athletes)

growth & development: plant / verb

blossom (verb)
blossomed into (real) depression
my uncertainty had ~ (the future)
blossomed into (full-blown) panic
the thought ~
blossomed into warfare
simmering resentments ~ (two politicians)
blossoming in the Middle East
a revolutionary spirit is ~
blossom out of control
the consequences can ~ (problems on 767 jetliner)
blossomed all over the country
now citizens' groups have ~
groups have blossomed
now citizens' ~ all over the country (Siberia)
love (for yo-yos) blossomed
his ~ again

blot (noun)
blot on our reputation
renditions and torture will long remain a ~ (US in Iraq)

flaws & lack of flaws: mark
reputation: mark

blow (body blow)
body blow to the home team
the goal was a ~ (soccer)
body blow for Assad's regime
a ~ (title of article)

feeling, emotion & effect: boxing

blow (bitter blow, etc.)
blow
this is not a ~ but a boost
blow to the city
the decision is an embarrassing ~
blows to this community
a string of crushing ~
blow to our defense
losing him, it's a huge ~ (football)
blow to the environment
loss of the reefs will be a major ~
blow to the regime
loss of the airport was a huge psychological ~ (war)
blow to the city's reputation
the violence is a ~ (Rio/ carnival)
dagger blow
we must deal sharp ~s to the terrorists
knockout blow
the air campaign failed to deliver a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)
the ~ was delivered when… (indictments)
embarrassing blow
the decision is an ~ to the city
crippling blow
his death dealt a ~ to his network (a terrorist)
crushing blow
a string of ~s to this community
devastating blow
loss of the coral reefs would be a ~
embarrassing blow
the decision is an ~ to the city
stinging blow
the death of a donor dealt the hospital's reputation a ~
bitter blow
the defeat was a ~ for Serbia and Montenegro (soccer)
final blow
they saw the confrontation as the ~ (firing)

hug blow
losing him, it's a ~ to our defense (football)

major blow
loss of the reefs will be a ~ to the environment
psychological blow
the takeover was a huge ~ to the regime (airport)

sharp (dagger) blow
we must deal ~s to the terrorists

string of (crushing) blows
a ~ to this community

soften the blow
he tried to ~ (economic news)
dealt a (heavy) blow to Hamas
the offensive has ~ (Israel attacks Gaza)
deal a blow against the enemy
we will ~

feeling, emotion & effect: fist / sensation

blowback
political blowback
you can’t attack Wall Street without ~

reversal: explosion / weapon
resistance, opposition & defeat: explosion / weapon
blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.)

blow-by-blow account
he gave me a ~ of what had happened

sequence / speech: boxing
blown away
blown away
I was ~
prepare to be blown away
~ (a TV ad for a new movie)
feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / weapon
blow off (verb)
blow him off
at first, she said, she ~ (unwanted sex)

dismissal, removal & resignation: breathing / verb
blowout (noun)
blowout
the fight was a ~ (easy victory)
difficulty, easiness & effort: explosion
blow over (verb)
things blow over
we’ll be gone until ~

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: storm / verb / wind
starting, going, continuing & ending: storm / verb / wind

blow up (destroy / disrupt)
blow up the norms
he did more to ~ than any five majority leaders (McConnell)
blow up the system
we want to ~ (anti-Nancy Pelosi young democrats)
blow up Wall Street
the guy who helped ~ (Michael Osinski)
blew up the Senate
this is the guy who ~ in the Obama years (McConnell)
destruction: explosion / verb
disruption: explosion / verb
blow up (attention / verb)
blowing up on TikTok
I want to talk about an artist who is ~ (Blanco Brown)
blow up
the case ~ (attention paid to child abduction)
coaches’ phones ~ with congratulations
increase & decrease: explosion / verb
initiation: explosion / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / verb
blowup (attention / noun)
song’s massive blowup
the ~ is partially thanks to TikTok
increase & decrease: explosion / verb
initiation: explosion / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / verb
blow up (blow up in one’s face)
blow up in his face
it could ~ (if he ignored the infraction)
blown up in our face
this has ~ (supporting Somali warlords)
reversal: explosion / verb / weapon
blow up (emotion)
blew up
I couldn’t take it anymore and I just ~
blew up over the issue
a recent city council meeting ~ (immigration)
feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / pressure / verb / weapon
initiation: explosion / pressure / verb / weapon
blowup (conflict)
blowup
there’s going to be a ~ (controversy)
initiation: explosion / pressure / weapon
conflict: explosion / pressure / weapon
blue (out of the blue, etc.)

out of the blue
I was thinking of calling her when ~ she called me
pulmonary edema can, ~, strike down the best climber

absolutely out of the blue
her disappearance was ~
bolt-from-the-blue
any US military action will look like a ~ act of aggression

appear out of the blue
a thunderstorm can ~
appears out of the blue
an electrical problem ~ (HomeWire)
came (quite) out of the blue
the "genius award ~ (John D. MacArthur Foundation)

appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / color / lightning / sky

occurrence: air / atmosphere / color / lightning / sky
origin: air / atmosphere / color / lightning / sky
fate, fortune & chance: electricity / sky / storm

blue (politics)

blue state
is Iowa at this point a red state or a ~?

♦ "Is Iowa at this point a red state or a blue state?" "Iowa is still a purple state." (US politics, as talked about on NPR.)
♦ "Red, R, Reagan, that’s why we chose red." (A network broadcaster during the 1984 presidential election, explaining why states that had gone for Reagan were colored red on a national map. Democratic states were colored blue.)

identity & nature: color

blue (feeling)

feeling blue
I’m ~

feeling, emotion & effect: color

blueprint

blueprint
they had to figure it out for themselves, there was no ~
blueprint about what
there is no ~ to do next
blueprint for change
the plan is a ~, for action
blueprint for a better future
clean energy is a ~
blueprint for reforming
his ~ education has some good points
administration’s blueprint
the ~ calls on states to adopt new standards
education blueprint
the president will send his ~ to Congress

draw up a blueprint
leaders met to ~ for economic cooperation

script: infrastructure

bluff (noun)
call your bluff
you’re lucky she didn’t ~ (negotiations)

subterfuge: cards / gambling
position, policy & negotiation: cards / gambling
strategy: cards / gambling
strength & weakness: cards / gambling

blunt (speech)

blunt
he is ~ (speech)

speech: blade / knife

board (on board)
on board with (Mursi’s) changes
if the military is ~…
on board with the plan
she is not really ~
bring people on board
they’ve gone out of their way to ~ (developer)
climbing on board
many voters are ~ (politics)
get the managers on board
we need to ~ (workplace flexibility)
hopped on board
other companies have ~ (normcore fashion, vehicles, music, food, etc.)
jumped on board
Harvard ~ last month (sex / romance policy)

unanimity & consensus: boat
allegiance, support & betrayal: boat

boat (boat of science, etc.)

boat of science
he rocked the ~ (Pasteur)
bases: boat

boat (in the same boat)
in the same boat
all the teams are ~ (concerns about fuel)

empathy & lack of empathy / situation: boat
unanimity & consensus: boat

boat (rock the boat)

rock the boat
they can be expected to ~
equilibrium & stability: boat
disruption: boat
unanimity & consensus: boat
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: boat

body count

professional body count
there has been quite a ~ (firings, replacements)

dismissal, removal & resignation: military

body politic

body politic
Republicans kowtow to the ~
running sore in the body politic
Bloody Sunday became a ~ (Ireland)
injecting poison into the body politic
they are ~ (Fox News, etc.)
government / society: body

bogeyman (noun)

Islamist bogeyman
the US is obsessed with the ~ (foreign policy)

affliction: creature

bogged down

bogged down in (federal) bureaucracy
the plan got ~ (to restore the Everglades)
bogged down in (scientific) squabbles
the test has been ~ and bureaucratic foot-dragging
bogged down in the (UN) system
the US is ~
bogged down by red tape
rescue efforts got ~ (Kobe earthquake)
got bogged down
the plan ~ in federal bureaucracy (environment)
rescue efforts ~ by red tape (Kobe earthquake)

obstacle & impedance: ground, terrain & land

boil (affliction)

perpetual boil
this ~ needs to be lanced (diplomacy)

affliction: health & medicine

boil (initiation)

emotions are boiling
~ (Tea Party advocates in US)
tension are boiling
~ (police shooting and verdict)
makes my blood boil
it ~ (removal of fairy doors from forest)

initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb / water
activity: heating water / temperature / water

boil (boil down to something)

boil down to
but what does all this jargon ~
boils down to
eventually it all ~ do I want a car or....
boils down to this
it all ~...
boil down to the following
your options ~...
boils down to cost
the matter ~...
boiled down to the fact
today it ~ we didn't get the bounces (loss / soccer)
boils down to one (major) issue
the debate usually ~...
boil down to a (chronic) lack
others say Metro's problems ~ of rail cars
boiled down to choice and safety
the issue ~ (midwifery)
boiled down to two (simple) things
his allure ~: money and power (drugs)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: heating water / temperature / water / verb
bases: heating water / temperature / water / verb

boilerplate (noun)

boilerplate
some of the charges seemed routine, almost ~ (crime)
boilerplate about "common sense and compromise"
there was nothing new, just ~
boilerplate element
it contained the ~s of any rejection letter
boilerplate motion
it's a ~ filed by many defendants
boiler-plate points
he made all the ~ (a politician)
boilerplate sentimentality
the production is steeped in ~ (a play)
boilerplate statement
the auditor's report was little more than a ~

legal boilerplate
the warning was mere ~ (company's filing)
management boilerplate
it was written in the idiom of upbeat ~

script: manufacturing / tools & technology
boiling point
reached a boiling point
the crisis has ~
sent (racial) tensions to a boiling point
his death ~ (Amadou Diallo, shot by police)
Initiation: heating water / temperature / water
feeling, emotion & effect: heating water / temperature / water
boil over (verb)
anger boiled over
his ~ Monday when he… (student shoots professors)
crisis was boiling over
the energy ~
party boiled over
a ~ (violence)
resentment boiled over
her ~ and we had a big fight (husband / wife)
streets are boiling over
the ~ (Egyptian protests)
about to boil over
the situation is ~
Initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water
feeling, emotion & effect: heating water / temperature / verb / water
bolster (verb)
bolster our forces against the enemy
we must ~
bolsters his analysis with an army
he ~ of statistics
bolster their arguments
to ~ the Egyptians… (NTSB investigation)
bolstered its capabilities
the Coast Guard has ~ for port security
bolster their case
to ~, FBI officials have prepared a… (terrorism)
bolster (babies') health
living with a dog or a cat may ~ (germs)
bolster morale
hot food and the Internet ~ (US military in Iraq)
bolster the myth
this has helped to ~ that children… (intersexed)
bolstered the notion
archaeological expeditions ~ of… (archaeology)
bolster patrols
the Highway Patrol has hired 150 new officers to ~
bolster his reputation
he was just shooting off his mouth to ~
bolster security
funds to ~ for nuclear weapons and waste (terrorism)
amelioration & renewal: infrastructure
bolstered
bolstered by the courage
~ of their teammate, they won the game easily
bolstered by (a handful of) studies
his insights are ~
bolstered by the work
his conclusions were ~ of…
findings are bolstered
experts say the ~ by the fact that…
amelioration & renewal: infrastructure
bomb (danger)
ticking bomb
we must control it, it’s a ~ (online influence campaigns)
danger: explosion / military / weapon
bomb (roach bomb, etc.)
roach bombs
you can buy rat-resistant trash cans and ~ (at a store)
resemblance: explosion
bomb (code bomb)
"code bomb"
after he was demoted, he inserted a ~ (hacker)
computer: explosion / weapon
bombard (verb)
bombarded principals with messages
parents ~ (worried for kids)
bombard him with complaints
the young men he employed would ~
bombarded Friedel from all directions
Mexico ~ (soccer)
amount & effect: explosion / verb / weapon
bombarded
bombarded with emails from opponents
lawmakers were ~
bombarded with faxes from around the world
the president's office was ~ from around the world
bombarded by hateful emails
she is being ~
bombarded by (job) offers from companies
he was ~
bombarded with complaints
the company was ~

bombarded by (visual and auditory) stimuli
we are constantly ~

bombarded by (so many unspecific) warnings
citizens have been ~ (terror)

bombarded by new ideas
in 1999, China was being ~ (due to Internet)

amount & effect: explosion / weapon

bombardment (noun)
bombardment of (food) advertising
the constant ~ (health)

amount & effect: explosion / weapon

bombproof

bombproof

your pro should be ~ (climbing)

bombproof roll
you need a ~ (kayaking)

flaws & lack of flaws: explosion

bombshell (noun)
bombshell
dropping a real-life ~ from his past

bombshell claim
the ~ came on cross-examination (murder trial)

economic bombshell
the president dropped an ~ when he announced...

new bombshells
stayed tuned for ~ (entertainment TV)

dropped his bombshell
he ~ (a lawyer)

fired (back) a bombshell
she ~ (divorce back-and-forth)

amount & effect: explosion / weapon

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / weapon

bonanza (noun)
bonanza of waves
the storm has created a ~ for surfers (hurricane)

propaganda bonanza
the attack was a ~ for the insurgents

marketing bonanza
his success has been a ~ (Japanese ballplayer)

commercial bonanza
the drug has been a ~

financial bonanza
the ~ from Turkmenistan's gas fields

cost & benefit: mining / money

amount & effect: mining / money

worth & lack of worth: mining / money

activity: mining / money

bone (close to the bone, etc.)
close to the bone
his arrest hit ~

proximity: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

bone (racist bone, etc.)
racist bone
there’s not a ~ in my body
I don’t have a ~ in my body

identity & nature: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

boo (noun)
cheers and boos
the judge’s decision drew ~

judgment: sound
accusation & criticism: sound

booby trap

potential booby traps
new technologies in cars are ~s for first responders

danger: explosion / military / weapon

book (close the book)
closed the book on a NFL future
he has ~ (athlete)

close the book on this
we need to ~ and move on

curtailment: books & reading / verb
development: books & reading / verb
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: books & reading / verb

book (judge a book by its cover)
judge a book by its cover
you can’t ~

appearance / judgment: books & reading

book (open book)
open book
the rookie driver is a refreshingly ~ (interviews, etc.)

character & personality: books & reading
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: books & reading

book (by the book)
by-the-book
he was strictly ~ (a soldier)

character & personality: books & reading
constraint & lack of constraint: books & reading
book (throw the book at somebody)
“throw the book” at anyone
he vowed to ~ responsible
threw the book at him
the judge ~
punishment & recrimination: books & reading / verb

book (development)
book of life
a man's ~ should be considered, not just one chapter (trial)
development: books & reading

bookworm
bookworm
I admit it, I'm a ~
enthusiasm: animal / books & reading / person

boom (jade boom, etc.)
jade boom
the ~ has been fueled by the Chinese (Xinjiang)
activity: explosion
cost & benefit: explosion

boom (increase)
booming
business is ~

increase & decrease: explosion / verb
activity: explosion / sound / verb

boomerang (verb)
boomeranged on him
it ~ (controversy)
boomerang (back) on us
it could ~
reversal: direction / verb / weapon

boomerang (noun)
boomerang kids
millennial ~ may consume resources, finances and time (AARP)
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: weapon

boost (verb)
boost the economy
it will ~ (medical tourism)
boost his image
this will ~ in the public eye (a fallen celebrity)
boost (sagging) morale
they turned to sports to ~ (soldiers in war zone)
boost scores

schools are under relentless pressure to ~
boosted my spirits
it ~

increase & decrease: direction / force / verb

boost (noun)

blow this is not a ~ but a boost

increase & decrease: direction / force

boot (oppression)
boot as the ~ is removed from the neck of the people
the government has its ~ on the neck of the company
the people are under the ~ of barbaric power (Albania)
oppression: clothing & accessories

boot (get the boot)
got the boot
he ~ after making the final 4 (dance contest)
dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories

boot (soldier)
boots on the ground
we needed ~ (soldiers abroad to fight terrorism)
we have increased our ~ (US-Mexico border)
person: clothing & accessories

bootleg (adjective)
bootleg copy
he bought a ~ of Microsoft Windows
concealment & lack of concealment: alcohol

bootlegger
digital bootlegger
new tools to go after ~s (a bill)
concealment & lack of concealment: alcohol

boot out (verb)
boot out the IMF
Chavez helped Argentina ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories / verb

border (proximity)
border on the absurd
his arguments ~
bordered on miraculous
the last-minute goal ~ (sports)
bordered on obsession
his pursuit ~
bordered on panic
her response ~

border on racism
his comments ~

borders on rudeness
this ~

proximity: boundary

born (born teacher, etc.)

born athlete
he was a ~

born teacher
he was, it seemed, a ~

born worrier
~s versus people who are carefree

natural-born (m)
~ genius is often deliberate technique (teachers)
she is a ~ leader
there are no ~ salesmen

identity & nature: birth

born (creation)

born
how to let peace be ~ despite the difficult labor pains

born in the 1970's
the shadowy Baluchistan Liberation Army, ~ (Pakistan)

born in (great) jubilation
South Sudan, ~, is plunging into a vortex of violence

born on the kitchen table
the Chicago Defender was ~ of its publisher in 1905

born digitally
the material wasn't ~ and must be hand-scanned

creation & transformation: birth

born-again

born-again Christian
his conversion from hell-raiser to ~

born-again conservative
he is a ~

identity & nature: religion
creation & transformation: religion
commitment & determination: religion

born-on (adjective)

born on date
best consumed within 110 days of the ~ (Budweiser)

creation & transformation: birth

bottleneck

bottleneck

Native Americans hunted the pronghorn at this ~
the Panama Canal has become a ~ (too narrow, etc.)
bottlenecks on highways
bottlenecks in the (nation's) power grid
refining bottleneck
industry must remove ~s (oil)
genetic bottleneck
blood samples reveal a ~ (too few Amur tigers left)
remove (refining) bottlenecks
industry must ~ (oil)
obstacle & impedence: bottle / neck / shape

bottle up (verb)
bottles things up
she ~
bottle it up and put it away
you kind of ~ (male on male abuse)

feeling, emotion & effect: bottle / container / verb

access & lack of access: bottle / container / verb

bottom (at the bottom)

at the bottom of the barrel
do their time ~ (worst job assignment)
at the bottom of the (economic) pyramid
new jobs are coming ~ (poorly paid jobs)
at the bottom of the pecking order
we were ~ (biker club)

hierarchy: position

bottom (hit bottom)

hit bottom
we may have ~ (unemployment)

hit rock bottom
the moment you ~ and admit to yourself… (addiction)
he was a person who had ~
things had ~ (bad relationship)
before you can get better, you have to ~ (addiction)

hitting rock bottom
livestock prices are ~

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
decline: direction

bottom (get to the bottom of something)

get to the bottom of where
he was never able to ~ the money had gone
get to the bottom of the error
state officials said they would ~

get to the bottom of this case
we want to ~
get to the bottom of this mystery
no one wants to ~ quicker than... (crash)

get to the bottom of things
we need to ~ (a murder investigation)

get to the bottom of this
we will ~ (investigation into fatal stampede);
I want to ~ (US sits by during genocide in Rwanda)
we'd really like to ~ (mystery illness)

get to the bottom about what happened
we need to ~ (congressional investigation)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation:** ~ direction
**searching & discovery:** ~ direction
**bases:** ~ direction
**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion:** ~ direction

**bottomless (adjective)**

bottomless
the well of outrage is ~ (fundamentalists)

bottomless thirst
China has a ~ for oil and gas (Xinjiang Province)

**extent & scope:** ~ direction
**amount:** container / direction

**bottom line**
bottom line
what it is going to mean for the ~ (sanctions)

**cost & benefit:** money

**bounce (verb)**
bounced from one idea to the next
I ~ (what to do this summer)
bounced around Southwest Asia
he ~ (a terrorist)
bouncing around
he was ~ a lot back then (rootless)
bounces in and out of bankruptcy
everybody ~ (airlines)
bounced between homes
his family ~ (rootless)

**movement:** ball / verb

**bounce back (verb)**
bounce back
the love and support of someone who helps them ~
she was always able to ~ (Whitney Houston)
bounce back from (natural) disasters
modern economies ~ (Kobe earthquake, etc.)
bounce back from setbacks
the UFC has been able to ~
bounce back quickly

resilient people ~ from failure

**resiliency:** ball / verb

**bound (noun)**
knows no bounds
the hypocrisy of the NCAA ~

**behavior:** boundary

**bound (constrained)**
bound by a (strict) code
they are ~ of ethics (education consultants)

bound by the rules
he did not feel ~ that governed most men

bound by the (military's) code of silence
he didn't feel ~

desk-bound (m)
the Chairman oversaw only the 1,600 ~ officers

duty-bound
nurses are ~ to report what they think is abuse

fogbound (m)
the plane crashed in ~ mountains

fog-bound (m)
a pileup on a ~ stretch of freeway killed eight (France)

hidebound (m)
a ~ bureaucracy

homebound (m)
the ~ elderly
he takes meals to a ~ invalid

honor-bound
I am ~ to pay him back

house-bound
she is ~

ice-bound (m)
Siberia's ~ expanse
the climate of ~ coastal regions

leather-bound (m)
~ books

muscle-bound (m)
a ~ frat boy

snowbound
we were ~
Nigata Prefecture is ~ for months (Japan)

spellbound
I watched her, ~

tradition-bound
the Marines are the most ~ of the services

tradition-bound (m)
the Navy was run by ~ admirals
wheelchair-bound (m)  
the ~ author

feel bound  
he didn’t ~ by the military’s code of silence

constraint & lack of constraint: rope

boundless

boundless energy  
known for his ~ and tireless volunteerism

boundless enthusiasm  
he didn’t share his ~

boundless optimism  
a ~ in the power of technology (computing)

amount / extent & scope: boundary

boundary (division)

boundaries of the (doctor-patient) relationship  
a psychiatrist may relax the normally strict ~

boundaries between plant species  
the ~ are far more porous than among animals

racial boundary  
Hispanic is an ethnicity crossing ~s

strict boundaries  
a psychiatrist may relax the ~ (doctor-patient)

social, cultural and religious boundaries  
his teachings transcend all ~

relax the boundaries  
a psychiatrist may ~ of the doctor-patient relationship

transcended (racial) boundaries  
his work ~ (playwright August Wilson)

division & connection: boundary

boundary (behavior)

boundary  
the usual ~s keep getting crossed (politicians)

boundaries of their (famed) tolerance  
the Dutch are rethinking the ~ (drugs, sex, squatting)

behavior: boundary

bounded

bounded on the east  
the plateau is ~ by an escarpment of 100m

bounded (on the east) by an escarpment  
the plateau is ~ of 100m

plateau is bounded  
the ~ on the east by an escarpment of 100m

configuration: boundary

bound up

bound up in the myths  
Indians are ~ white Americans have created

constraint & lack of constraint: rope

involvement: rope

bow (verb)

bow to convention  
she’s an artist who won’t back down or ~

bow to the inevitable  
we will have to ~

bowed to the inevitable  
he has ~ (minister under attack resigns)

bowed to pressure  
he has ~ from industrialists (a politician)

bowed to (public) pressure  
he finally ~ to do something

bowing to the U.S.  
the Turks are not ~ (arms dispute)

dominance & submission: religion / verb

resistance, opposition & defeat: religion / verb

bowel (noun)

bowels of the prison  
a tiny, dark room in the ~ (solitary confinement)

resemblance: bodily process

place: bodily process

bowl (Vietnam’s rice bowl, etc.)

rice bowl  
the Mekong Delta, Vietnam’s ~

salad bowl  
the Salinas Valley is nicknamed America’s ~

place: epithet / farming & agriculture / sign, signal, symbol

bowl (salad bowl / agriculture)

“Salad Bowl of the World”  
the city bills itself as the ~ (Salinas, California)

America’s salad bowl  
the Salinas Valley is known as ~ (greens)

the Salinas Valley is nicknamed ~

Northern California’s Salinas Valley is often dubbed ~

place: farming & agriculture

bowl (salad bowl / mixture)

bowl (salad bowl / mixture)  
melting pot, a (beautiful) tapestry, or a salad bowl

mixture: food & drink

identity & nature: food & drink
bow out (verb)
bow out
  he has refused pressure to ~ (a politician)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: theater / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: theater / verb

boxed himself into a corner
  he has ~ on tax increases (a politician)

constraint & lack of constraint: boxing / sports & games

box (box somebody into a corner)
boxed himself into a corner
  he has ~ on tax increases (a politician)

constraint & lack of constraint: boxing / sports & games

box (out / outside the box)
out-of-the-box
  how ~ can I go (actor takes strange roles)

out-of-the-box idea
  she came up with an ~

think out of the box
  we have to think ~ (WHO and Ebola)

think outside the box
  she learned how to ~

constraint & lack of constraint / idea: container

box (situation)
put them in a box
  we don’t want to brand people, to ~ (legacy students)

situation: container

box (tick all the boxes, etc.)
ticks all the boxes
  Tyson Fury ~ (the boxer)

worth & lack of worth: writing & spelling

boxed in (verb)
boxed in
  she’s not about to be ~ (a singer and her style)

constraint & lack of constraint / container

brace (verb)
brace yourself
  ~ for bad news

bracing for more fallout
  Washington is ~ from the scandal

braced for a typhoon
  the Philippines ~ that could trigger flooding

readiness & preparedness: infrastructure / verb

braced
braced for a long siege
  the demonstrators are ~

braced for a (tropical) storm
  Florida is ~

readiness & preparedness: infrastructure

brain (noun)
brains behind the project
  he was the ~

knowledge & intelligence: head

brain (on the brain)
sex on the brain
  not that men need help getting ~

interest: head

brainchild
brainchild of Ted Turner
  24-hour news was the ~ (CNN)

brainchild of a (16-year-old high school) student
  the stunt was the ~ (viral news story)

idea: head
creation & transformation: family / head

brain drain / gain
brain drain
  the agency has suffered a severe ~

"brain gain"
  out-of-state students lead to a ~ (at Chapel Hill, NC)

reverse brain drain
  the US is seeing a ~ as foreign students go home

knowledge & intelligence: head

brainstorm (verb)
brainstorm ideas
  ~ ideas for his current script

brainstorm solutions
  meet key people and ~ to the challenges you face

brainstorm everything
  if we tried to ~ that could possibly go wrong, we’d…

idea: head / storm / verb

brainstorm (noun)
latest brainstorm
  his ~ is to open a chain of "As Seen on TV" stores

idea: head / storm

brain trust
medical brain trust
  he compared notes with the NFL’s ~ (concussions, etc.)

knowledge & intelligence: head
brainwash (verb)

brainwashed him
the cult had ~

violence: head / hygiene

brainwashed

do coerced, brainwashed or (even) drugged
she may have been ~ (terrorist)

violence: head / hygiene

brake (control)

pump the brakes
some voters want them to ~ (impeachment)

put the brakes on (economic) growth
industrialists fears the unions would ~

put the brakes on your feelings
you ~ to avoid confrontation (Japanese “Gaman”)

control & lack of control: mechanism / movement
speed: mechanism / movement

branch (taxonomy)

branches of Buddhism
the various ~ (Zen, Tibetan, etc.)

branches of Christianity
the Armenian Church, one of the most ancient ~

branch of Islam
the Hazara are members of the Shiite ~ (Afghanistan)
discrimination against adherents of the Shi'ite ~
the Salafiya ~ regards Shiites as non-Muslims
the Ismailis are a minority within the minority Shia ~

branches of Islam
the centuries of enmity between the Sunni and Shi'ite ~

branch of Shia Islam
Ismailism is a ~

branches of biology
ecology is one of the hardest ~ (it's so complex)

branches of the (Hawiye) clan
the many ~ (Mogadishu)

branch of government
judges constitute a third ~

branch of knowledge
theology was accepted as the supreme ~

branches of the military
special operations forces from various ~

branch of physics
quantum mechanics is a ~

branch of engineering
he felt the oil industry ~ suited his personality

branch of the Bani Hassan
Al-khalayleh is a ~ (Jordan)

branch bank
each of the four corners has a ~ (NYC)

branch library
or any other ~

ordnance branch
he is in the ~, which provides ammunition

service branch
veterans from all four ~s

Salafiya branch
the ~ of Islam regards Shiites as non-Muslims

Shi'a branch
discrimination against adherents of the ~ of Islam

Shia branch
the Ismailis are a minority within the minority ~

various branches
special operations forces from ~ of the military

adherents of the (Shi'a) branch
discrimination against ~ (in Saudi Arabia)

taxonomy & classification: tree
branching system: tree

branch out (verb)

branched out into (food) wholesaling
he ~ (a businessman)

growth & development: tree / verb
branching system: tree

brand (verb)

branded his accusers liars
he ~ (convicted sex abuser)

brand them apostates
Sunni Arab extremists ~ (Iraq's Christians)

branded the extradition "unlawful"
the Russians ~

branded all Chechen rebels baby killers
he ~ (post-Beslan)

characterization: fire / mark / verb

brave (verb)

braved the weather
several hundred people ~ for a screening

courage & lack of courage: verb

brawl (noun)

political brawl
the government's ~s with the Muslim Brotherhood
scientific brawl
his appetite for ~s is increasing with age (scientist)

c**onflict boxing**

b**razen (adjective)**

brazen
the company was ~ (bribes)

brazen play
they orchestrated a ~ (political corruption)

* The origin of this word relates to brass.

**restraint & lack of restraint: materials & substances**

**behavior: materials & substances**

b**reach (noun)**

breach of etiquette
the ~ was startling
she was chastised for a ~ (teen golfer at tournament)

breach of the peace
acts causing a ~ are prohibited (city park)

breach of (academic) politics
the ~ destroyed his university career

breach of (investigative) protocol
it is the worst ~ (leak about case)

breaches of respect
~ are sometimes met with vicious reprisal (surfing)

breaches of the rules
police were guilty of ~ on questioning suspects

breach of the (truce) treaty
we urge the North to apologize for the ~

breach of trust
Gordimer accused Roberts of ~ (over biography of her)

breaches of Islamic law
they police the streets on the lookout for ~

breach in the public health system
the closure creates a serious ~

breach with President Yeltsin
how do you avoid a major ~ (diplomacy)

data breach
the latest ~ (from the Dept. of Veterans Affair)

safety breach
China closed the lab after a ~ (SARS)

security breach
a series of ~s on the Internet
the CIA's handling of the ~
a ~ of customer information (40 million credit-card holders)
reports on ~s in airports

computer-security breaches
many companies have detected ~

substantial and significant breaches
police were guilty of ~ of the rules on questioning suspects

guilty of breaches
the police were ~ of the rules on questioning suspects

detected (computer-security) breaches
many companies have ~

jump into the breach
the company enlisted him to ~

step into the breach
the Germans and French have offered to ~ (intel)

stepped into the breach
ordinary citizens have ~ (disaster relief)

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

**failure, accident, & impairment: fortification / military**

b**read and butter (livelhood)**

earn its bread and butter
science has to ~ (practical applications)

b**ases: food & drink**

b**read-and-butter (adjective)**

bread-and-butter model
the company's ~

b**ases / importance & significance: food & drink**

b**readbasket (Pakistan’s breadbasket, etc.)**

breadbasket of India
the Punjab is the ~ (Sikhs)

Afghanistan's breadbasket
the broad Shomali Plain that was once ~

Brazil’s (southern) breadbasket
~ flourishes (vs. Amazon)

Pakistan’s breadbasket
Punjab is known as ~ for its agriculture

place: farming & agriculture / sign, signal, symbol

b**readcrumb**

breadcrumbs for the police
he would leave few ~ (serial murderer changes identity, etc.)

bread crumbs to the crime scene
her clothes were ~ (Central Park jogger)

breadcrumb trail
an electronic ~ lets users backtrack (GPS)

digital breadcrumbs
police followed the ~ left behind by the victim and suspect

* A breadcrumb trail is an allusion to the fairy tale of Hansel and Gretel. The children’s horrible mother wishes to get rid of them in a time of famine. She leads them deep into the forest but the kids are able to return home by following a trail of small white stones they had dropped along the way. The second time, they have no time to collect stones, so they drop crumbs of bread. But the birds eat the crumbs, and the kids are lost. They eventually come to a gingerbread house where a cannibal witch imprisons them.
break (destroy)
broke the internet
  what ~ (Facebook issues, etc.)
broke the Democratic Party
  how Ted Kennedy ~
destruction: mechanism / verb
breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.)
on the edge of a (nervous) breakdown
  I'm ~
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism
break down (explain)
break it (all) down for us
  they will ~us (TV news analysis)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: mechanism / verb
break down (functioning)
authority broke down
  political ~
discipline can break down
  in a crisis, ~ (first responders)
  fire ~ upon contact (military)
negotiations broke down
  ~ and resumed and broke down again
communications system broke down
  the state-of-the-art ~
social order is breaking down
  the ~ (in the wake of a great natural disaster)
law and order has broken down
functioning: mechanism / verb
break down (divide)
breaks down into (many small-unit) battles
  combat in urban areas ~ (military)
breaks down into two (different) categories
  the issue ~
breaks down features into elements
  faction-recognition devices ~
broke down its data by age
  the company ~ as well as income
break down ounces into gram
  midsize dealers ~ (illegal drugs)
taxonomy & classification: mechanism
breaking point (at the breaking point)
at the breaking point
  they are ~ (financially)
at a breaking point
  the system is ~ (immigration)
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances
condition & status: materials & substances
breaking point (to the breaking point)
stretched to the breaking point
  we are ~ (police chief facing layoffs)
  the Army and Marines are ~ (US in Iraq)
  fire crews are ~ (California wildfires)
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances
condition & status: materials & substances
breaking point (other)
breaking point
  every man has his ~ (Shawshank Redemption)
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances
condition & status: materials & substances
breakneck (adjective)

breakneck rate
Boeing has been churning out the popular model at a ~ (a plane)

speed: animal / horse

break off (verb)

broke off the attack
the mountain lion finally ~ (on 70-year-old man / CA)
broke ~ off his engagement
he ~ to the former Playboy model
broke off (diplomatic) relations
Venezuela then ~ in response
broke off (business) ties
it ~ with... (two companies)
broke off (diplomatic) ties
Ecuador ~ with Colombia
break it off
until I got the nerve to ~ with my then-girlfriend

starting, going, continuing & ending: hand
curtailment: hand / verb

break out (verb)

fight broke out
the ~ on Alexanderplatz square (caused by social media influencers)

occurrence: pursuit, capture & escape / verb

breakthrough (noun)

breakthrough
research failures are finally being outnumbered by the ~s
breakthrough in the (murder) case
we are hoping for a ~
breakthroughs in medicine
the new research might lead to ~
breakthrough in (stalled) talks
a ~ on a bill that... (lawmakers)
breakthroughs in (armor) technology
revolutionary ~ (military)
breakthrough lead
even a $2.5 million reward has not produced a ~
breakthrough pain
a "rescue dose" for sudden, severe ~ (morphine)
breakthrough year
he is having a ~ (baseball player)
research breakthrough
~s have reduced the cost
~s have led to new treatments for stroke
diplomatic breakthrough
the U.N.-sponsored gathering is a ~

revolutionary breakthroughs
~ in armor technology (military)

scientific breakthrough
it's a ~
technological breakthrough
the first ATMs were a ~ (1970s)

In dictionaries, this word dates to 1918—World War I—when soldiers struggled and died to break through enemy defenses.

Importance & significance: military / movement
progress & lack of progress: direction / military / movement

breath (take one's breath away)

took my breath away
she ~
it ~ (a huge inflated medical bill)
took your breath away
it ~ (an exciting boxing match)
takes your breath away
the canyon always ~ (Grand Canyon / winter)

feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / breathing

breath (hold one's breath)

holding their breaths
people are ~ (waiting for a remedy)
holding its breath
the world is collectively ~ (Japan nuclear disaster)
holding my breath
I was ~ walking to the mailbox to see... (medical bill)
holding their breath
people are ~, waiting to see what happens next

fate, fortune & chance: breathing / verb

breathe (verb)

breathe
all caves ~

resemblance: bodily process

breathe (consume)

eat and breathe
these guys ~ cycling (Giro d'Italia)

consumption: breathing / verb

breathing space, etc.

breathing room
provide ~ to consider the options
the rate increase gives the Postal Service "~"
a little breathing room
the Turks are giving the Saudis ~ (to reply)
amelioration & renewal: breathing
time: breathing

breathless (adjective)
breathless coverage
  blaring headlines, fleshy photos and ~ (tabloid)

feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / breathing

breathtaking (adjective)
breathtaking advance
  this is a ~ (legislative act)
breathtaking performance
  she gave a ~ (skater)
breathtaking power
  American prosecutors have ~
breathtaking speed
  the cars go at ~s (racing)
breathtaking view
  a front porch with a ~ of the mountains
  the skyway provides ~s of the southern Appalachians

feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / breathing

breed (create)
breeds (political) bedlam
  the system ~ (government)
breeds corruption
  the ruling ~ (campaign finance)
breeds the desire
  success ~ for more success (school)

Breeds Peril
  Yellowstone Bison Thrive, but Success ~ (article)

creation & transformation: animal / verb

breed (type)
breed of enthusiast
  roller coasters inspire a peculiar ~
breed apart
  made them a ~ (W.W. II veterans)
breed of athlete
  a pole vaulter is a very special ~ (danger)
peculiar breed
  roller coasters inspire a ~ of enthusiast
special breed
  it's a dangerous job that takes a ~
  a pole vaulter is a very ~ of athlete (danger)
identifying marks of the (latter) breed
  some professors are jerks, and students should learn the ~
  early on (sex)

taxonomy & classification: animal

breathtaking, breathtaking: breathing

breeding ground

breeding ground for (religious) extremism
  mosques are a ~ (Pakistan)
breeding ground for (would-be) jihadists
  Zarqa is a ~ (Jordan)
breeding ground for (serial) killers
  the Pacific Northwest is a ~
breeding grounds for terrorism
  the refugee camps are prime ~
  the Sudan and Somalia, ~
breeding ground for viruses
  the Internet is a ~

creation & transformation: nuclear energy

brew (mixture)
witches’ brew
  at one time, the US military was a ~ of racism
lethal brew
  driving fatalities result from a ~ of… (India)
toxic brew
  their illnesses resulted from a ~ of contaminants
  we fight this ~ of stupidity and… (US exceptionalism)

mixture: food & drink

brew (activity)
brewing
  this issue has been ~, and they knew it would bubble up again

brewing in Nasiriya
  another humanitarian crisis may be ~ (Iraq War)
controversy is brewing
  a ~

wars (in Haiti) has been brewing
  ~ since…
problem is brewing
a new ~ (too little space at Metro stations)

revolution is brewing
a ~ (against bilingual education)

storm was brewing
outside, the ~ (protests against the government)

tensions are brewing
~ between supporters and opponents

activity: heating water / temperature / verb / water
initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water

bridge (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.)

Bride of the Red Sea
Jeddah, the ~ (Saudi Arabia)

relationship: epithet / family / love, courtship & marriage
person: love, courtship & marriage

bridge (noun)

build bridges to the Taliban
he has sought to ~
burned some bridges
he's ~ in the tennis world (troubled athlete)

division & connection: bridge / river

bridge (verb)

bridge the divide
they want to ~ and find common ground (gun control / suicide)

bridging the divide
ballet and baseball are ~ (Cuba and the US)
~ won't be easy (NFL players’ protests)

bridge the gap
~ between the life you lead and the life you want to live

bridge the rupture
US diplomats are trying to ~ (Middle East)

division & connection: bridge / river / verb
amelioration & renewal: bridge / river / verb

bridge (air bridge, etc.)

bridge between the Middle East and Anatolia
Turkey is a ~ (eastern Turkey / Van)

air bridge
the ~ is important (food drops to starving refugees)
Egypt poured men and materiel into Yemen over an ~

Arctic Bridge
Arctic warming could revitalize the so-called ~
trans-Atlantic bridge
they have been trying to reestablish that ~ (Mafia / heroin)

transportation: bridge / river
division & connection: bridge / river

route: bridge / infrastructure / river

bridge (water under the bridge)

water under the bridge
it's ~ now

past & present: bridge / water
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge / water

bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
a bridge too far
the idea is ~ (a bad idea that goes too far)
I hope he wins, but my head says it will be ~ (Amir Khan vs. Crawford)
a game too far
it was, in some respects, ~ for England (World Cup)
a step too far
like the Canelo fight, this could just be ~ (Khan vs. Crawford)

♦ This refers to Operation Market Garden during World War II. It's meaning is to overreach.

restraint & lack of restraint: military / history / allusion

bridge (cross that bridge)
cross that bridge
we will ~ when we come to it
we will ~ and that decision will be made

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bridge / journeys & trips / river / verb
timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge / journeys & trips / river / verb

bridge-building (through bridge-building)

resolve issues through bridge-building
they sought to ~

division & connection: bridge / river
amelioration & renewal: bridge / river

bridge-building

bridge-building visit
the admission came ahead of Medvedev's~ to Warsaw

division & connection: bridge / river
amelioration & renewal: bridge / river

bridgehead (noun)

bridgehead
Hong Kong is not a ~ to subvert the mainland (China)
establish a bridgehead
hackers are keen to ~ on internal networks

presence & absence: bridge / river
survival, persistence & endurance: bridge / river
bright

bright
her future is ~

brighter
the future for the company has never been ~

bright idea
it's not easy to turn a ~ into a genuine business

superlative: light & dark
bright (bright side)
look on the bright side
well, ~…. (consolation)

flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark
resiliency: light & dark
brilliance (superlative)
flashes of brilliance
this was a performance of heart, quality and ~ (soccer match)
he produced occasional ~ when he returned (a soccer player)

superlative: light & dark
brilliant (technology)
"brilliant" bomb
~s are in the future (Low Cost Autonomous Attack Systems)
~s are the smart bombs of the future
~s strike some as the ultimate nightmare

from dumb to smart to brilliant (m)
~ bombs (military)

knowledge & intelligence: mechanism
ability & lack of ability: mechanism
brilliant (superlative)
brilliant (medical and military) career
after a ~
brilliant hacker
he is a ~ (computers)
brilliant idea
I had a ~
brilliant job
who did such a ~
brilliant (new) plan
a ~ to…
brilliant scientist
she's a ~ who…
brilliant and abrasive (m)
a ~ engineer named…

superlative: light & dark
brim (verb)
brimming with patriotism
he staged a revival meeting ~
brims with irony
his account ~ (a book)

amount: container / verb
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: container / verb
bring (verb)
brought its own problems
the solution has ~
brought joy to the citizens
the musical ~ of an anxious nation at war (“Oklahoma!”)
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb
bring (future)
bring
nobody knows what the future will ~
future: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb
bring (bring back)
bring the beaver back
efforts are underway to ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb
amelioration & renewal: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb
bring (bring it)
bring it
if you’re gonna sing it, you gotta ~ (gospel music)
commitment & determination: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb
bring around (verb)
bring Londoners around
what will ~ (to support the Olympics)
allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / verb
bring down (verb)
bring down some racial barriers
it helped to ~ (basketball)
brought down his own career
he ~ with drugs (a baseball player)
bring down the (whole) edifice
any crack in the system would ~ (dictatorship)
destruction: direction / verb
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / verb
brink (on the brink)

on the brink of collapse
the government is ~

on the brink of default
the country is teetering ~ (Greece / economy)

on the brink of disaster
the country is ~ (economy)

on the brink of a (polio) epidemic
West and Central Africa are ~

on the brink of failure
the meeting was ~ (UN)

on the brink of insolvency
the factory is teetering ~

on the brink of unconsciousness
he was ~ (trapped caver)

on the brink of stardom
he has been hovering ~ (a film actor)

on the brink of (another) summit bid
10 days later, ~ (climbing)

hovering on the brink
he has been ~ of stardom (a film actor)

teetering on the brink
the factory is ~ of insolvency

proximity: ground, terrain & land
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land

brink (to the brink)

push Iraq to the brink
he urged them not to ~ of confrontation

proximity: ground, terrain & land
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land

brink (back from the brink)

back from the brink
Wall Street is ~

step back from the brink
they must ~ (rioters battle soldiers)

bring them back from the brink
we must ~ of extinction (endangered animals)

pull his friend back from the brink
he tried to ~ (drug intervention)

proximity: ground, terrain & land
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land
survival, persistence & endurance: ground, terrain & land

brinksmanship (noun)

brinksmanship
there’s a lot of ~ involved (negotiations)

fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land
position, policy & negotiation: ground, terrain & land

bristle (verb)

bristled at question
the senator ~ about his patriotism

bristles at the suggestion
she ~ that she encouraged cheating (an educator)

bristling with security
the courthouse is ~

♦ Pilorection is a sign of emotional arousal. In chimpanzees, it will cause the hair on their shoulders to stick straight up. At the same time, chimpanzees might hoot and throw pebbles.

feeling, emotion & effect: animal / dog / hair / verb
activity: animal / dog / hair / verb

brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.)

emerged (emotionally brittle)
he ~ (from a turbulent childhood)

feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances
ability & lack of ability: materials & substances

broadsie (noun)

level broadsides at Romney’s wealth
Democrats ~ (politics)

accusation & criticism: boat / military / weapon
speech: weapon

Brobdingnagian (adjective)

Brobdingnagian Embassy
the US is downsizing its ~ in Iraq

size: allusion / person

♦ The allusion is to the satire Gulliver’s Travels by Jonathan Swift The same book contributed Lilliputian to the language.

broken (failure)

broken
our food-safety system in this country is ~ (salmonella)
there is no question in my mind that the system is ~
the economy is ~, and Obama can't fix it

broken home
he comes from a ~

broken life
put back the pieces of a ~ (schizophrenia)

failure, accident & impairment: mechanism
functioning: mechanism
flaws & lack of flaws: mechanism

broken (English, etc.)

broken Arabic
reporters asked him in ~ if…

broken English
the Peruvian liaison officer spoke ~
flaws & lack of flaws: speech / mechanism
speech: functioning
broken (feeling)
broken man
  he left high-spirited, but he returned a ~ (war)

feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / mechanism
broken-hearted
broken-hearted (m)
  a ~ man

feeling, emotion & effect: heart
feeling, emotion & effect: functioning
heart: functioning / mechanism
bromide (noun)
bromide
  this is sound advice as far as it goes, but it's a ~

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine
amelioration & renewal: health & medicine
speech: health & medicine
brother (brother in arms, etc.)
brother of igneous volcanoes
  mud volcanoes are the poor ~ (research, etc.)
brothers to us
  the Syrians are ~ (Iraqi Christian refugee)
brother in arms
  the soldier's reflexive instinct to protect his ~
fraternity brothers
  he died after chugging whiskey with ~ (initiation)
poor brother
  mud volcanoes are the ~ of igneous volcanoes (research)
band of brothers
  they are more than a fun-loving, bike-riding ~ (gang)

relationship: family
division & connection: family
person: family
brotherhood
brotherhood of the sea
  we have seen what the ~ means (international rescue)
brotherhood of firefighters
  the ~
brotherhood of submariners
  the ~
brotherhood, loyalty, courage, and self-sacrifice
  the virtues of ~
brotherhood, service, sacrifice
  ~ (Rangers)
Sufi brotherhoods

Chechnya's ~
  ♦ "We have seen in deeds, not words, what the brotherhood of the sea means." (A Russian Navy official, on the successful rescue of sailors aboard a sunken mini-sub. The British, Japanese, and Americans had all rushed to help.)
  ♦ "My hope is that this site contributes to making more people visit our museum and that the pilgrimage to the Island of Gorée provides an impetus to an enhanced brotherhood able to exorcise the demons of the past." (Abdoulaye Wade, President of the Republic of Senegal, 2005, speaking about the island opposite Dakar which was the largest slave-trading center on the African coast, ruled in succession by the Portuguese, Dutch, English and French.)
group, set & collection: family
relationship: family
division & connection: family
brush (brush off)
brushed off concerns
  he ~ about his security
brushed off their concerns
  he angrily ~ (a manager)
brushed off his protest
  they ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: hand / verb
brush-off
gave me the brush off
  she ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: hand
bruise (verb)
bruised feelings
  but the decision has ~ here (by church, to…)
bruised some egos
  he ruffled some feathers and ~ (a general)
feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / sensation / verb
bruised
left the Administration bruised
  the experience ~ (diplomacy)
feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / sensation
bruising (adjective)
bruising (political) attacks
  after days of ~ on his tax returns and his record...
bruising election
  it was a ~
feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / mark / sensation
bubble (verb)
bubbling here
there has been a long-term democracy moment ~
bubbling (just) under the surface
conflict is ~

**activity:** bubble / heating water / temperature / verb / water
**initiation:** bubble / heating water / temperature / verb / water

**bubble (noun)**
stock bubble
but now that the ~ has burst (1990s)
dot-com bubble
the ~
housing bubble
the ~ will eventually pop (housing market)
bubble has burst
but now that the stock ~... (1990s)
bubble burst
then the ~, and investors lost fortunes (stocks)

**activity:** bubble / water
**substance & lack of substance:** bubble / water

**bubble (isolation)**
their own bubble
they can’t see outside of ~ (Facebook leaders)
the people at Facebook live in ~
pierced the bubble
Trump ~ of this isolated leadership (North Korea)

**isolation & remoteness:** bubble / container / water

**bubble up (verb)**
bubble up
the Troubles continue to ~ in unexpected places (Ireland)
this issue has been brewing, and they knew it would ~ again

**appearance & disappearance:** bubble / heating water / temperature / verb / water
**activity:** bubble / heating water / temperature / verb / water
**initiation:** bubble / heating water / temperature / verb / water

**bubbling (adjective)**
bubbling
his case remained a ~, unsolved mystery for years (Kim Philby)

**activity:** bubble / heating water / temperature / water
**initiation:** bubble / heating water / temperature / water

**buccaneer (person)**
buccaneers, outsiders, (political) pirates
they want to be seen as ~ (opposition researchers)

**taking & removing:** crime / person / sea

**person:** boat / crime / sea

**buck (verb)**
bucked his party
he ~ (John McCain / politics)

**resistance, opposition & defeat:** horse / animal / verb
**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity:** horse / animal / verb

**buckle (give way)**
buckled
instead of doubling down on the policy, he ~

**failure, accident & impairment:** infrastructure / ruins / verb
**resistance, opposition & defeat:** infrastructure / ruins / verb
**destruction:** infrastructure / ruins / verb

**budding**
budding adventurer
the ~ claimed she was not afraid (Abby Sunderland, 16)
budding ("heritage language") movement
the ~ in education
budding relationship
they managed to keep their ~ a secret (guy / girl)
budding romance
the innocence of a ~ (teens)

**growth & development:** plant

**budge (verb)**
budge
the negotiators won’t ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat:** movement / verb
**position, policy & negotiation:** movement / verb
**commitment & determination:** movement / verb

**budget (attention budget, etc.)**

**attention budget**
ads take a toll on the user’s ~ (internet)

**constraint & lack of constraint:** money

**buffet (noun)**

**buffet of injustices**
that place was a virtual ~ (Southern Poverty Law Center)

**alternatives & choices:** food & drink

**bug (enthusiasm)**

**travel bug**
she said she got the ~ from her father...

**internet bug**
have you got the ~

**acting bug**
he took some drama classes and developed an ~
skating bug
he caught the ~ at age 8 (ice-skater Rudy Galindo)
bitten by the cycling bug
as a youth he played soccer before he was ~
**enthusiasm: health & medicine**
**build (create)**
build an (international anti-terror) coalition
they seek to ~
built confidence
rehearsals ~ and improve performance (military)
built his confidence
he needs time to ~
built my confidence
rehearsals ~ and improve performance (military)
built a (drug-trafficking) empire
he ~ in the Caribbean
built a (nationwide freight-hauling) empire
Johnnie B. Hunt, who ~
built the future
the motto was Pro futuro aedificamus—we ~ (school)
built a (secure) future
~ for their children
build interest
Leslie's dunk will ~ in the WNBA
built a (16-point) lead
~ (basketball)
built a good life
we ~ together
build muscles
some bodybuilders use GHB thinking it will ~
built opposition
he participated in clandestine meetings to ~
built (a series of working) partnerships
~ (federal agencies)
built rapport
a personable style of communication that aims to ~
built (close) relationships
the chaplain ~ with prisoners (prison)
built her reputation
she ~ as an educator over two decades (fired)
built a reputation
you can’t ~ on what you are going to do (Henry Ford); Cotto continues to ~ (the boxer)
built (deductive) skills
~ early in doctors' training
built (company) solidarity
he pays for Caribbean cruises to ~
built a team
trying to ~ is a hard juggling act (basketball)
built (community) ties
people don’t stay long enough to ~
built a better tomorrow
we are ~
built trust
you can ~ by… (dealing with kid's separation anxiety)
built a (peaceful) world community
they seek to ~
built her reputation over two decades
she ~ (an educator)
built a case one block at a time
they are ~ (for conspiracy)
built self-esteem
some argue that the best way to ~ is to…
anger is building
the ~ here (oil spill)
aims to build
a personable style of communication that ~ rapport
trying to build
~ a team is a hard juggling act (basketball)
failure to build
his government's ~ a healthy economy
time to build
he needs ~ his confidence
hard to build
the company's reputation, ~, easy to destroy

**creation & transformation: infrastructure / verb**
**building block**
building block of society
the tribe is the ~ (rural south Iraq)
use the experience as a building block
you can ~
**bases: infrastructure**
**build up (verb)**
building up
a lot of anger is ~

**Increase & decrease: infrastructure / verb**
**built**
built around the church
his life was ~

**configuration: infrastructure**
built in
built in
is there an assessment tool that is ~
downtime built in
their jobs have extended ~ (firefighters)
built-in incentive
stock options provide a ~
attachment: infrastructure
identity & nature: infrastructure
configuration: infrastructure
bull (bull in a china shop)
bull in a china shop
she's a ~
force: animal / cows & cattle
bulldoze (verb)
bulldoze (v)
he tried to ~ me, but I resisted
destruction: tools & technology / verb
bullet (velocity)
bullets of sound
acoustic weapons can fire ~
bullet train
at the controls of a Japanese ~
speed: bullet / weapon
bullet (shape)
bullets, needles, prisms, columns
snowflakes come in shapes: ~, stars cups, and plates
shape: bullet / weapon
bullet (dodge a bullet)
dodged a bullet
we ~ here (car bomb ignites but fails to explode)
dodged a (big) bullet
we ~ (hurricane misses refineries)
fate, fortune & chance: bullet / weapon / verb
bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
take a bullet for the president
he has said he would ~ (a lawyer)
allegiance, support & betrayal: bullet / verb
commitment & determination: bullet / verb
bulletproof (adjective)
bulletproof
your logic is ~
our story was ~ (investigative reporter)
seemed bulletproof
he ~ just a few weeks ago (politician under fire)
flaws & lack of flaws: bullet / weapon
bull's-eye (shape)
"bull's-eye" rash
the disease is characterized by a ~ (Lyme disease)
shape: target / weapon
bull's-eye (target)
bull's-eye on his back
he has a ~ (a wanted terrorist)
put a bull's-eye on the city
the hurricane has ~ (New Orleans 2012)
target: weapon
bully (verb)
bully their kids
some parents ~ to harden them
bully the president into backing down
the Republicans are trying to ~ on reform
bullied by the north
southerners complain of being ~ (Sudan)
coercion & motivation: school & education / verb
oppression: school & education / verb
bully (person)
bully in their region
Israel was the classic ~ (Egyptians / 1973 war)
regional bully
many see Saudi Arabia as a ~ (its neighbors)
stood up to the (schoolyard) bully
he ~ (student vs. record-industry lawyers)
coercion & motivation: school & education / person
oppression: school & education / person
person: school & education
bulwark
bulwark against (Republican) excesses
he was a ~ (a politician)
bulwark against (religious) extremism
he had been a ~ (deposed leader)
bulwark against (government) tyranny
the Second Amendment is a ~ (right to bear arms)
bulwark against vice
playgrounds provide a ~ (urbanization)
bulwark of stability and democracy
India represents a ~ compared with Pakistan
protection & lack of protection: fortification / military
bump (bump in the road, etc.)
bump in the road
this is just a ~ (personal setback)
it was just a ~ of their ideal lives
bumps in the road to toilet training
many families encounter ~
speed bumps
there have been a few ~ (negotiations)
encounter bumps in the road
many families ~ to toilet training
obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips

bump (increase)
bump in business
the films saw a ~ following their Tony wins
bump in earnings
the company has seen a ~
increase & decrease: shape

bumpy (adjective)
bumpy ride
consumers are in for a ~ this year (customer service)
bumpy road
the economy is on the ~ to recovery
flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land

buoy (verb)
buoy the movement
Trump’s rhetoric continues to ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb / water

buoyant (feeling)

buoyant
the Russian mood is definitely ~
the German fans are ~ and singing (soccer game)

buoyant about ending
they were ~ their opponents’ unbeaten streak (sports)

buoyant mood
the members of the expedition were in a ~

buoyant music
she loved the musical’s ~

buoyant optimism
he expressed ~ that…

buoyant, lively (m)
it was a ~ performance (music)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / water

buoyant (personality)

buoyant 70
he is a ~ (years of age)

buoyant confidence
she projects a ~

buoyant personality
she has a ~ given her circumstances (illegal immigrant)

buoyant temperament
she has a ~

c character & personality: direction / water

buoyant (strong)

buoyant
voters supported him while the economy was ~
Asian economies remain resilient, even ~

buoyant demand
the offering has seen ~ from investors

buoyant (job) growth
we are seeing rapid, ~

keeps prices buoyant
the rarity of such collectibles ~

increase & decrease: direction / water

buoyed

buoyed with hope
he seemed ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / water

survival, persistence & endurance: direction / water

burden (verb)

burden his wife with (toilsome and difficult) work
a man should not ~, based on her abilities and custom

burden our grandchildren with this debt
it is wrong to ~

oppression: burden / weight / verb

affliction: burden / weight / verb

burden (noun)

burden
some view stress as a challenge rather than a ~

burden of expectation
she suffers from the ~

burden of guilt
they share a ~

burdens of leadership
the ~ are heavy (politics)

burden of the past
future generations won’t suffer the ~

burden of proof
the ~ is on the FDA to show…

burden (of paperwork) on researchers
the ~ can be great
debt burden
she couldn't get out from under her crushing ~
~ keeps poor countries from healing their sick
tax burden
the ~ still falls on the shoulders of regular Americans
the local ~ on the mall store
financial burden
we must reduce the ~s on patients (health care)
a wedding can be a huge ~ (Arab countries)
heavy burden
he carries a ~ of responsibility (ruler)
physical and emotional burdens
the ~ of child-rearing (on grandparents)
blessing and a burden
patients see choice as both a ~
burden falls
the ~ on the shoulders of those least able to bear it
the ~ primarily on women (health-care decisions)
carry the burden
some kids ~ of extra responsibility (autistic sibling)
ease the burden
how can we ~ of the poor
get out from under her crushing (debt) burden
she couldn't ~
shoulder the burden
locals must ~ after regime change (Rumsfeld)
oppression: burden / weight
affliction: burden / weight
 burgeoning (adjective)
burgeoning influence
they wish to allay fears about its ~
♦ This word relates to the growth of plants.
growth & development: plant
increase & decrease: plant
buried (concealment)
buried in the archives
the information was ~
buried in the past
it is ~…
buried in the navigation bar
the link was ~ (poor Web site design)
buried facts
~ about the (plutonium) contamination
stay buried
the past did not ~ (The Troubles and Brexit)
concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land

buried (buried in debt, etc.)
buried in debt
are you ~
buried in work
homicide detectives were ~ (leads)
buried away
she was ~ in the U.S. Department of Agriculture
involvement: burial / ground, terrain & land
oppression: burial / ground, terrain & land
burned (impressed)
burned into our (collective) consciousness
fairy tales or folktales ~
Impression: fire / sensation
burned (hurt)
burned by their (past) investments
they were ~ in failed projects (tech industry)
got burned
many investors ~ (fraud)
♦ Once burned, twice shy!
feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation
burner (front burner)
put the environment on the front burner
they seek to ~ (election)
pot having more fun on the front burner
maybe it's time to ~ (ad for a cruise ship)
priority: direction / position
importance & significance: direction / position
burning (burning desire, etc.)
burning desire
the ~ to be the best (basketball)
he has a ~ to get the facts (human rights investigator)
burning question
she has one ~ (what did my son die for in Iraq war)
burning righteousness
she pays a price for her ~ (a play)
feeling, emotion & effect: fire / sensation
sensation: fire
burning (slow-burning)
slow-burning rebellion
the nation is in the grip of a ~ against the regime
slow-burning war
the Troubles, the ~ in Northern Ireland
activity: fire
burnish (verb)
burnished his credentials
  his work in Beijing ~ (a politician)
burnished his reputation
  his sermons have ~
  ♦ If you burnish something, you rub it until it shines.

increase & decrease: light & dark / verb

burn off (verb)
burn off her (abundant) energy
  your toddler needs to ~
burn off stress
  exercise is a great way to ~

amelioration & renewal: fire / verb

burn out (verb)
burn out
  he warns that troops will "~" and leave the service
burned out
  what happens to adjuncts once they’ve ~
burn out from the environment
  people who ~ (technology and computers)
burn out or fade away
  playboating didn’t ~ (whitewater rodeos, etc.)
feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb

burnout (noun)
competitive burnout
  he quit the tour, citing ~ (a surfer)

feeling, emotion & effect: fire

burst (activity)
burst of negotiating
  the crisis signaled a fresh ~
burst of recognition
  you’re getting a ~ (an old Blues singer)
activity: explosion

burst (burst into tears, etc.)
burst into applause
  the staff ~ (teachers)
burst into laughter

she ~
burst into tears
  I ~, assuming…

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb

burst (burst into violence, etc.)
burst into violence
  lingering tensions ~
initiation: explosion / verb

burst on / onto the scene, etc.
burst on the scene
  he ~ in 1991 (independent politician Ross Perot)
burst onto the stage
  he was one of several poets who ~ in the 60s (Russia)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: explosion / verb

attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion / verb

bury (conceal)
bury the truth
  the government is trying to ~
bury (radio) listings
  newspapers ~
buried the report
  Harvard found the same thing but ~ (race issue)
concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land / verb
concealment & lack of concealment: burial / verb

bury (immerse)
buries herself in her phone
  whenever they’re together, she ~ (teen and father)
absorption & immersion: burial / verb

bus (throw somebody under the bus)
threw us under the bus
  I felt like he ~ (a politician)

allegiance, support & betrayal: violence / verb

bus (allegiance)
on the bus
  you’re either ~ or not on the bus, and I’m driving the bus
  ♦ This is like the politician who said, “This is my truck, and in my truck we go by my rules.”
allegiance, support & betrayal: mechanism
unanimity & consensus: mechanism
control & lack of control: mechanism

butcher (verb)
butchered his presentation
  he ~
failure, accident & impairment: meat / verb

**butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)**

Butcher of Baghdad
ridding the world of the ~ (Saddam Hussein)

butcher of Mosul
the execution of Shukair Farid, "the ~" (Iraq)
criminals and butchers
the terrorists are ~ (Prince Abdullah)

**violence: epithet / meat**
**oppression: epithet / meat / person**

**butterfly (shape)**
butterfly ballot
the ~ confused many voters (2000 presidential election)
"butterfly" mines
PFM-1 ~ scattered from the air (Afghanistan); children think ~ are toys
shape: insect

**butterfly (social butterfly)**
social butterfly
she's a ~

character & personality: insect

**butterfly (butterflies in stomach)**
had butterflies in my stomach
I ~ (a nervous performer before a performance)

feeling, emotion & effect: Insect

**button (push a button)**
pushed my button
that's what ~ too far (a suspension)
push people's buttons
I like to ~ (George Carlin / comedian / taboos)
pushes (South Africa’s) racial buttons
rugby ~
push (people's) buttons
he likes to ~ (get them upset)

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb

**button (pause button)**
hit the pause button
we need to ~ and keep it pressed until... (gene editing)

action, inaction & delay: mechanism
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism

**button (panic button)**
panic button
I was scared, I hit the ~

hit the panic button
I was scared, I ~

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism

**hot button**

hot buttons
he addresses love, expectation, and other ~ (writer)
he addresses jealousy, grief, and other ~ (writer)
he addresses disappointment, fidelity and other ~

hot-button issue
another ~ at the WTO was dumping
let's talk about some of the ~s (politics)

hot-button subject
it's a ~ (racism and bias)

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / temperature

**buttress (verb)**

buttress Ethiopia against threats
a better approach is to ~ to its survival by...
buttress its argument
Eritrea produced Italian colonial-era maps to ~
buttressed his case
he has ~ with science's latest discoveries about...
buttress European influence
the pipeline will ~ all the way to Azerbaijan

amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb

**buttress (resemblance)**

buttresses of (dark, gabbro) rock
these peaks and ~ are called the Black Cuillin

resemblance: infrastructure

**buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.)**

Buttress Point
~ is a point in New Zealand

Castle Buttress
~ is a peak in KwaZulu-Natal

Porcupine Buttress
the ~ is a series of promontories (Western Cape)

proper name: infrastructure

**buy (buy into something)**
bought into the bravado
he initially ~ (claims of a corporation)
bought into the (e-wallet) concept
parents that have ~
buy into the stereotype
does this guy ~ that Asian women are generally weak

acceptance & rejection: money
allegiance, support & betrayal: money
buy (other)

buy their argument
do you ~ that…

buying his excuses
his colleagues are not ~ (ethics violations)

acceptance & rejection: money / verb

buy-in

buy-in from parents
we didn’t have enough of a deep ~ (school)

acceptance & rejection: money
allegiance, support & betrayal: money

bypass (verb)

bypass Congress
the President will try to ~ to get what he wants

avoidance & separation: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
obstacles & impedance: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
strategy: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
subterfuge: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping

buzz (sound)

buzz with the sound
forests ~ of chain saws

sound: insect

buzz (activity)

buzzing with anticipation
the students were ~ (school assembly)

buzzing with excitement
the city is ~ ahead of next month’s World Cup

buzzing with questions
my mind was ~

buzzed with possibilities
my mind ~

buzzed with rumors
the school ~

buzzing with shoppers
Rockefeller Center is ~

activity: insect

buzz (attention)

buzz
the ~ this years is that…

buzz about the (new) hotel
there was a lot of ~ (a Japanese robot hotel)

buzz about the Nationals
there has been a lot of ~ (sports team)

audience buzz
the TV show is getting critical acclaim and ~

water-cooler buzz
the ~ is underway (a controversy)

most buzz
which story is getting the ~

negative buzz
the group survived the initial ~

generated quite some buzz
this has ~ in the last 24 hours or so (politics)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound

buzz (sensation)

beer buzz
I like a good ~ in the morning

euphoria or buzz or high
inhaling to get a sensation of ~ (toluene abuse)

sensation: sound

bygone (adjective)

bygone era
hallmarks of a ~
he dressed and sounded like he had stepped out of a ~

past & present: movement

byproduct

byproduct of (Mexico’s) culture
domestic violence is an ugly ~ of machismo

byproducts of the war
renditions and torture are ~ (US in Iraq)

ugly byproduct
domestic violence is an ~ of Mexico's culture of machismo

product: manufacturing
creation & transformation: manufacturing

byzantine

byzantine (Third World) bureaucracy
solutions have been impeded by a ~

byzantine formula
fees are calculated according to ~s

byzantine (asylum) process
he navigates a ~ to finally get a court hearing

byzantine regulations
~ are difficult for the outsider to navigate (Egypt)
the ~ are stifling

byzantine tax law
he relied on Smith's knowledge of ~

complexity: history

C

cakewalk (dance)
cakewalk
this election is not going to be a ~ for...
England are still well placed, but it has not been a ~ (cricket)
no Indy 500 is a ~, it's a massive challenge (motorsports)
military intelligence suggested the campaign would be a ~

♦ For the history of this word, see “The Extraordinary Story Of Why A ‘Cakewalk’ Wasn’t Always Easy” by Lakshmi Gandhi, NPR, Code Switch, Race and Identity, Remixed, December 23, 2013. The title says it all!
difficulty, easiness & effort: food & drink
calculus
calculus of subsidizing
for China, the ~ green industries is quite different
cynical (political) calculus
the racist language they used was part of a ~ (politicians)
economic calculus
the recent rise of shale drilling has changed the ~
mental calculus
he committed an instant ~ (a sports player)
new calculus
for many Mexicans looking north, a ~ favors home
political calculus
the recent ~ hasn’t resulted in a winning calculus
regional calculus
the ~ has swiftly and dramatically altered (diplomacy)
strategic calculus
we cannot change Pakistan's ~
part of our calculus
that was ~, if we... (war strategy in Afghanistan)
altering the calculus
changes in Cairo are ~ of the entire region
changed that calculus
her string of stumbles ~ (that she could win easily)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: number
strategy: number
calibrate (adjust)
calibrate its use
it must ~ of force (a country)
exquisitely calibrated
his temperament was ~ to the moment (soldier)
amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / verb
measurement: tools & technology / verb
call (call to arms)
call to arms for everyone
this is a ~ who may have a hospitalized relative
call to arms against the epidemic
the report was a ~ (Koop / AIDS)
appeal: military / sound
message: military / sound
call (close call)
close call
this was not a ~, there was no case (a judge)
judgment: baseball / justice / sports & games
call (the right call)
right call
he remains convinced that he made the ~ (a judge)
judgment: baseball / justice / sports & games
call (close call / danger)
close call
I could have died, it was a ~
♦ This could be analogous to a close shave.
danger: blade / hair
fate, fortune & chance: blade / hair
call (appeal)
calls (for the FBI) to share
~ information
call of duty
his extraordinary heroism, above and beyond the ~
call of fads
don’t give in to the siren ~ (tattoos you can live with)
call of the wild
it heard the ~ and disappeared (pet deer)
call to action
boredom should be a ~
call to duty
men and women who feel the ~
calls for the abolishment
Iraqi leaders have rebuffed ~ of the death penalty
calls for democracy
universal ~ and human rights
calls for his head
there have been ~ (a government official)
call for help
that night they got a ~ (climbing)
call for jihad
his out-and-out ~
call for a (mass) protest

a ~ against anti-Semitism and racism (France)
calls for (peaceful) protests
despite ~, trouble broke out
calls for resistance
~ emanate from mosque loudspeakers (Iraq)
calls for revenge
rival families would issue ~
call for equal rights
the ~ was heard all over the country (civil rights)
calls for democracy and human rights
universal ~

God's call
he has answered ~ to preach the Gospel (Billy Graham)
siren call
don't give in to the ~ of fads (tattoos you can live with)
answered the call
he ~
heed his call
I wish more gays would ~ (gays shouldn't assimilate)
rebuffed calls
Irae leaders have ~ for the abolishment of the death penalty

appeal: speech
call for (appeal)
calls (out) for (decisive) action
the crisis ~ (terrorism)
called for a ban
he ~ of anti-personnel mines
call for (immediate) intervention
these situations may ~ (medicine)
calls for the removal
another option ~ of the population (Nauru)
called for a summit
Yeltsin ~ among the superpowers

appeal: speech / verb
call for (a recipe can call for something)
calls for flour
when a gravy, sauce, soup, or stew recipe ~

fictive communication: speech / verb
calling card
calling card
the way he positions his victims is his ~
the way the body was left amounted to a ~ (murder)
bravado, cunning and carelessness are his ~s
her openheartedness has always been her ~ (a singer)
calling card of many (neo-Nazi) groups
the swastika is still the contemporary ~
calling card of a monstrous storm
debris everywhere, tossed and scattered, the ~ (hurricane)
calling card for one's personality and lifestyle
weddings serve as a ~
grim calling card
mesothelioma has become the substance’s ~ (asbestos)
became his calling card
the film ~ in Hollywood (an actor)

♦ A calling card was a visiting card. Calling cards were once very important in the days of "society." They would include a name, perhaps an address, and a lady's "day at home." Cards were left at balls, receptions and teas. Those arriving in a new city might inform members of society there by sending calling cards.

evidence: object
callout (criticism)
callout
not every ~ escalates into a full-scale dragging
callouts, draggings, and pile-ons
some Y.A. books are targeted in intense social-media ~
accusation & criticism: speech
judgment: speech
calve (verb)
calve (immense serac) avalanches
hanging glaciers ~ (Everest base camp)
calve icebergs
tidewater glaciers ~
calve underwater
glaciers can ~, causing an iceberg to leap up

creation & transformation: cows & cattle / glacier / snow & ice / verb
calving
calving of icebergs
the ~ by glaciers
calving of an iceberg
the ~ can create a huge wave
creation & transformation: cows & cattle
camel (camel's nose)
camel's nose in the tent
he sees the decision as the ~ (a judicial case)

starting, going, continuing & ending: animal
cameo (noun)
celebrity cameos
the film featured a cavalcade of ~

characterization: clothing & accessories / picture
**camp (noun)**
camps of advisers and loyalists
frictions between their ~ (politicians)
two camps
there will be ~, just as there are now (a debate)
the fault lines break people into ~ (computers)
split into (rival) camps
our fear that America is ~ (Red / Blue)

**division: military**

**can (kick the can down the road)**
kicked the can down the road
they just ~ (negligent doctor not dealt with)

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: walking, running & jumping / verb**
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: journeys & trips
action, inaction & delay: journeys & trips / movement / 
verb

**canal (birth canal, etc.)**
birth canal
push the baby through the ~
a woman can die if her baby becomes stuck in the ~
alimentary canal
the ~ extends from the mouth to the anus
anal canal
the sigmoidoscope is introduced into the ~
auditory canal
sound waves go through the external ear into the ~

**shape: canal / infrastructure**

**canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)**
canary in the coalmine
brook trout are the ~ (for water quality)
canaries in the coal mine
they are the ~, super-sensitive to warming (corals)
canary in the cave about rationing challenges
it's the ~ (changes to who gets a transplant kidney)
canary in the coal mine for disconnected societies
Japan’s lost generation could be the ~ (hikikomori)

**evidence: animal / bird / mining**

**cancer (noun)**
cancer
this is a ~ that has been allowed to metastasize (issue)
government corruption is a ~ that destroys from within
cancer of our time
fake news is the ~
cancer on our society
Wall Street is a ~
cancer on the Internet
Facebook is a ~ (parent of teen)
cancer has metastasized
the ~ into a regional crisis (terrorism)
cut out this cancer
there is a need to ~ that we found (misconduct)
considers hacking a cancer
the Chinese government ~ to the whole society (Internet)

**affliction: health & medicine**
growth & development: health & medicine

**cancerous (adjective)**
cancerous growth
how can we stop the ~ of hate radio

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

**cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.)**
Cannibal
his nickname is “the ~” because he chews up his rivals
‘Corsa Cannibals’
~ can strip Vauxhall Corsas of their parts in just minutes

**destruction: epithet / person**

**cannibal (other)**
cannibal
his work was described as too graphic, ugly, even ~ (artist)

* The work of the sculptor Jacob Epstein has been described as “too graphic,” “too hard-hitting,” “too ugly,” “too distorted” and even “cannibal.”

**person: food & drink**

**cannibalized**
cannibalized
the buildings had been ~

**destruction: food & drink**

**cannon (loose cannon)**
loose cannon
there are a lot of ~s out there (crazy people)

**character & personality: person / weapon**
behavior: person / weapon
control & lack of control: military / person / weapon
person: military / weapon

**canon (literature)**
canon of (English) literature
 certain authors occupy a central place in the ~
canon of "great books"
who decides what the ~ is (literature)

**standard canon**
defenders of the ~ often agree to its expansion (lit)
traditional canon
the battle between defenders and detractors of the ~
parallel, oppositional canons
establish ~ of work by women, gays…
concept of the canon
many would repudiate the ~ entirely (literature)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
canon (other)
culinary canon
a native ~ embraces rice, persimmons, corn, bison (US)
canon has been blasted apart
but that ~ (doctors withhold prognosis)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
canonical (adjective)
canonical
his Cold War scholarship is ~ (John Lewis Gaddis)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
canter (noun)
canter
at a ~, take us through the voyage... (radio show)
haste: horse
cap (tip one’s cap)
tip their cap to Duke Ellington
younger musicians like Sonny and Max Roach always ~
achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / hat
capital (money)
human capital
we must invest in ~
political capital
he is willing to spend ~ on the issue
when you’re president you have a limited amount of ~
capital evaporated
in the last 2 weeks his political ~ (resigned)
cost & benefit: money
capital (capital of crime, etc.)
capital of crime
Detroit has a reputation as the ~
murder capital
Thunder Bay is the ~ of Canada
superlative: epithet / place
capital punishment
capital punishment
this was the political equivalent of ~ (calls for resignation)
death & life: justice
capstone
capstone of his career
the banking overhaul was the ~ (politician)
he wants health-care legislation to be the ~ (politician)
capstone of the peace treaty
the independence vote is the ~ (Sudan)
capstone to his agenda
the ratification of the treaty was the ~ (president)
capstone to his career
his present job is the ~ (service to his homeland)
capstone for the neighborhood
it will be the ~ (architectural project)
capstone (warfighting) doctrine
AirLand Operations is the Army’s ~
legal capstone
the case puts a ~ on a historic election (court)
♦ Two pillars often support a capstone, which is the stone at the top.
importance & significance: infrastructure / height
capture (verb)
capture it on a (surveillance) camera
captured him on a phone in the airport
security cameras ~ (terrorist)
captured Oscars
it ~ for best picture, director and actor (film)
captured (the world's) attention
airstrikes in Baghdad ~
captured my heart
the first time I saw him, he ~ (an orphan)
captured the imagination
the job of fire watcher has long ~
he has ~ of fans (an athlete)
captured the (public’s) imagination
what has most ~ is…
capture the loyalty
it has managed to ~ of working women (WNBA)
captures the plight
Scott Adams’s Dilbert ~ of the cubicle slave (cartoon)
captures (satellite) signals
the GPS receiver ~
captured the hearts and minds
he has ~ of Americans (Olympic athlete)
capture market share
~ while the market is small
capture (“impulse”) moviegoers
advertising to ~
"Now that we have captured your imagination, don't make us come after the rest of you. (A clever TV advertisement from the Eastern Band of the Cherokee promoting tourism on their reservation.)

pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb
fictive possession: hand / verb
carapace (protection)

subjects' protective carapaces
her job is to cut her ~ down to the bone (a journalist)

A carapace is the exoskeleton of a creature like a turtle or crustacean such as a lobster, crab, shrimp or prawn, or an arachnid (8-legged creature vs. a 6-legged insect) like a spider or scorpion.

protection & lack of protection: animal
isolation & remoteness: animal
carcass (noun)
carcass of a tank
he stood by the burned-out ~
destruction / resemblance: animal
card (in the cards)
in the cards
that's not ~
if you're a Congolese, you know a life of comfort is not ~
a permanent revival is just not ~ (the coal industry)
fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games
card (guilt card, etc.)
compassion card
Democrats are playing the ~ (unemployment benefits)
evidence card
they had the race card, we were playing the ~ (O.J. trial)
guilt card
the ~ works—if they have any guilt (Internet suck sites)
race card
he played heavily on the ~ (Peru)
some accused the lawyer of playing the ~ to the jury
they had the ~, we had the evidence card (O.J. trial)
policy and philosophical cards
they will have to show their ~ (party in power)
strategy: cards / gambling / sports & games
card (play one's cards)
play my cards right
if I ~, I could be head cheerleader

strategy: cards / gambling / sports & games / verb
card (hold one's cards close)
holds his cards close to his vest
he ~ and knows just when to play them (official)
character & personality: cards / gambling / sports & games / verb
card (dealt cards)
dealt some cards
they were ~ they can't play (under-privileged)

"They were dealt some cards they can't play to this day. Fortunately, I was dealt cards and somehow managed to play the right hand." (Olympic champion speaking of his heroin-addict mother and step-father.)

"It's not the cards you're dealt, it's how you play your hand."

fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games
card (strong card)

strong card
we don't have ~s but... (negotiations)
fear is a ~, if not a trump card (national security / politics)
his only ~ is that he...
it would be a ~ to play, but not perhaps a winning one
literature was never his ~

strong card in Afghanistan
he is the Pakistan Army's ~ (network leader)

Administration's (last) strong card
the ~ is to maintain economic sanctions against...

hold one strong card
we ~

strength & weakness: cards / gambling / sports & games
card (trump card)

trump card
this was her ~ (an endorsement for her)
fear is a strong card, if not a ~ (national security / politics)

strength & weakness: cards / gambling / sports & games
card (hold all the cards)

hold all the cards
when prosecutors ~, can any defendant get a fair trial

strength & weakness: cards / gambling / sports & games
card (cards on the table)
cards on the table
~, I can't say... (I won't like to you)

concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling / sports & games
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: cards / gambling / sports & games
caretaker (role)
caretaker government
the ~ is fragile and weak
caretaker manager
a ~ will be appointed
caretakers of the land
farmers are ~

help & assistance: infrastructure / person
Carnegie Hall (epithet)

Carnegie Hall of Broadway
onstage at the Shubert Theatre, the ~

superlative: epithet / theater

carpet (verb)
carpets the (rolling) highlands in emerald and gold cheatgrass ~
carpeted the meadow
flowers ~

cover: carpets & rugs / verb
configuration: carpets & rugs / verb

carpet (noun)
carpet of ash
a ~ covered the city (eruption)
carpet of (low-rise) buildings
a ~ cover the seven hills (Istanbul)
carpet of color
wildflowers create a ~ (Arctic summer)
carpet of flowers
a ~ has been left (a memorial for dead fans)
carpet of frogs
there was a ~ (on a road in Greece)
lush carpet
the bird nests in the ~ of moss and vines (in a crater)
thick carpet
a crew laid down a ~ of insulation

carpet of wildflowers
the ~ in subalpine meadows (Mt. Rainier)

cover: carpets & rugs
configuration: carpets & rugs

carpet (under the carpet)
brush it under the carpet
they will try to ~
sweep it under the carpet
we can't any longer ~ (educational issue)
concealment & lack of concealment: carpets & rugs

carpeted
carpeted with flowers
the meadow was ~
carpeted with wild blueberry plants
the tiny island is ~
carpeted (at the base) with starfish and mussels
we drifted into an inlet alongside cliffs ~
carpeted eastern Washington

old-growth forests once ~

cover: carpets & rugs
configuration: carpets & rugs
carrot (reward)
carrot
offering ~s and wielding sticks to persuade people to…
amid the ~s, there will be some sharp sticks
carrot of membership
the EU is dangling ~ in front of the two countries
coercion & motivation: fruits & vegetables / plant
carrot-and-stick
carrot-and-stick approach
it requires a ~ (a zoning alternative)
using a ~ to the millions moving into the fire zone;
commanders say a ~ is necessary (military occupation)
coercion & motivation: fruits & vegetables / plant
carry (carry me away, etc.)
carry me away
I let my emotions ~
feeling, emotion & effect: movement / transportation / verb
fictive transportation: verb
carry on (verb)
carry on
I got injured, but you still got to ~
survival, persistence & endurance: burden / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: burden / verb
resiliency: burden / verb
cart (cart off)
carted (31) Christians off to the station
police ~ (Weihai, China)
carted him (off the field) on a stretcher
they ~ (injured player)
transportation: animal / verb

carved out
carved out of the Middle East
Jordan was ~
carved out of the Maasai land
the Masai Mara was ~
carved out by the British
Jordan was ~
carved out in the 1920's
Jordan was ~
creation & transformation: blade / knife
**carve out** (verb)

- carve out an Islamic state
  - they want to ~ in Mindanao
- carve out a Muslim state out of the south
  - the group is fighting to ~ (Mindanao)
- carve out (decent) lives
  - homesteaders tried to ~ (North Dakota)
- carve out a future
  - young Brazilians are trying to ~
- carve out a living
  - wolves are forced to ~ on the steeper slopes
- carved out (new) markets
  - some entrepreneurs have ~ by selling…

**creation & transformation:** blade / knife / verb

**Casanova**

determined bovine Casanova
  - a feat impossible for even the most ~ (insemination)

Serbian Casanova
  - Dusko Popov, a ~… (a double agent for MI6)

**sex:** allusion / epithet

**cascade** (verb)

cascade through generations
  - negative attitudes ~

**movement:** water

**cascade** (noun)

cascade of decisions
  - the computer models triggered a ~ (transportation)

cascade of disasters
  - we have seen a ~ lately

cascade of (damaging) events
  - head injury can initiate a ~

cascade of problems
  - the events combined to create a ~

cascades of white death
  - the 22 natural avalanche chutes are ~ (pass and highway)

trigger a cascade
  - these chemicals ~ of allergic symptoms (food allergies)

**amount & effect:** water

**cascade** (a cascade of hair, etc.)

cascade of strawberry-blond hair
  - she has pale skin and a ~

**resemblance:** water

**cash in** (verb)

cashing in
  - the economy is growing, but not all are ~

cash in on the experience
  - a failure is a man who blundered but is not able to ~

cash in on those investments
  - early success could position her to ~ (candidate’s hard work)

**cost & benefit:** money / verb

**Cassandra**

Cassandra
  - for years he was a ~, his message ignored

♦ Cassandra’s parents were King Priam and Queen Hecuba of Troy, and she was Helen’s twin sister, so she must have been a good looker. She promised Apollo sex for the gift of prophecy, but then she broke her promise. So Apollo cursed her by making it so nobody would believe her prophecies. It is interesting to consider the thought that, if Paris had fallen for her instead of Helen, there would have been no Homer, Iliad, or Odyssey.

**message:** allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

**cast** (cast of candidates, etc.)

cast of candidates
  - a whole new ~ will be onstage at their debate (politics)

**group, set & collection:** theater

**cast** (cast doubt)

cast doubt on the (confession’s) accuracy
  - the defense ~

cast doubts on such assumptions
  - the hearings ~ (politics of abortion)

cast doubts on plans
  - the difficulties could ~ to reopen New Orleans

cast (any) doubt on (Hamilton’s) skills
  - she said she did not want to ~

casts (serious) doubt on another theory
  - the new finding ~ that had…

casts (some) doubt on a (popular) theory
  - the report also ~ that…

**throwing, putting & planting:** arm / verb

**cast aside** (verb)

cast your fears aside
  - and you ~ (song)

cast security aside
  - at 48, he ~ to pursue his passion (left his profession)

**dismissal, removal & resignation:** arm / verb

**cast** (light)

cast a beam
  - reflectors ~ (lighthouse)
cast a (dark) shadow
the tragic accident ~ over US-Korean relations

going, putting & planting: arm / verb
cast (other)
cast blame
officials can ~ only so much before the backlash starts
cast a curse
somebody must have ~ on his camel
cast discredit
the government alleges the paper ~ on the courts
cast a net
the authorities have ~ for the escapees
cast a pall
Chen's death ~ over the mountain (climbing)
cast a spell
at times he seemed to ~ on the ball (Ronaldo)

going, putting & planting: arm / verb
cast (characterize)
cast Grant as a "butcher"
Southern historians ~ (revisionism)
cast the debate as a class struggle
they have ~
cast the problem as a health issue
she has ~ (TV violence, etc.)

characterization: manufacturing / verb
castaway (person)
Hollywood castaways
mix with ranchers, fishermen and ~ (Livingston, Mont.)
homeless castaways
a dystopian future where children are ~ (a song video)
life’s castaways
she gives ~ the gift of merriment (film River of Grass)
society’s castaways
~~~hookers, addict, the homeless...

♦ Classic castaway stories include Robinson Crusoe and The Swiss Family Robinson. The TV show Gilligan’s Island ran for 3 seasons.
♦ Tromelin Island in the Indian Ocean got its name from the captain who rescued a group of castaways from that place. The whole story is quite amazing!

society: island / person / sea / going, putting & planting
isolation & remoteness: Island / person / sea / going, putting & planting
person: island / society
caste
caste society
America as a ~
caste system

lodgings follow a kind of unwritten ~ (officials)
the airlines use a ~ (paying more gets better treatment)

warrior caste
Marine pilots are an insular ~

♦ "It’s a caste system, and we are the untouchables of academia.” (An adjunct professor.)

hierarchy: society
division & connection: society
society: person
castle (protection)
castle
a man’s home is his ~

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military / royalty
castle (Castle Peaks, etc.)

Castle
the Smithsonian is popularly known as the ~ (D.C.)
Castle Peaks
the ~ are peaks in Queensland, Australia
Castle Valley
~, Utah, is east of Arches National Park
Baboons Castle
the ~ is a mountain in KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa)

New Castle
they were arrested in ~, Indiana (a town)

White Castle
~ is an oasis for late-night customers (hamburgers)

♦ This word often appears in geographical place names, as well as cities. For example, Castle Creek / Islet / Mountain, Pass / Peak / Point / Rock, etc.

proper name: fortification
castle (sand castle)
sand-castle-building contest
other events include a ~

shape: fortification
casualty (noun)
casualty of the (real-estate) boom
the development was an early ~

failure, accident & impairment: military
cat (cat and mouse / noun)
game of cat and mouse
college officials find themselves in a new ~ (cheating)
informers engage in a constant ~ with the authorities

pursuit, capture & escape: cat
cat (dead-cat bounce)
dead-cat’s bounce

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 138 of 982
when he came in, he benefited from a ~, no more (Man U coach)

decline: animal / cat / death & life

cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective)
cat-and-mouse game
  this ~ will continue forever (Microsoft vs. hackers)
  the ~ Iraq played with U.N. inspectors
  the ~ with the virus writers (computers)
  it's a classic ~ (terrorists trying to evade capture)

pursuit, capture & escape: cat
cat (bell the cat)
  bell more cats
  we hope that we can ~ (digital investigative research)
  * This refers to a fable. A council of mice debate the best way to stop the depredations of a stealthy cat. A mouse suggests that they put a bell on the cat, so they will be able to hear it coming. All of the mice acclaim this as a great idea and the perfect solution to their problem. However, when it comes as to who will actually put the bell on the cat, no mouse volunteers. Every mouse has some kind of excuse. To bell the cat has come to mean an attempt to perform an extraordinarily difficult or even impossible act.

warning: allusion / animal / cat / verb
concealment & lack of concealment: allusion / animal / cat / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / animal / cat / verb
catalyst (noun)
catalyst
  he was the ~, not the cause of the problem
  this is a bill that will jump start, jolt, be a ~ (business)
  the ~ for the government shutdown was...
  Auschwitz was the ~ that made him into the treat writer he was (Primo Levy)
catalyst of the team
  he's been the ~
catalysts in this conflagration
  Lincoln and his cronies were the ~ (US Civil War)
catalyst for change
  disaster can be a ~
  art can be a ~
catalyst for (economic) growth
  the software industry could be a ~ (India)
catalyst for (a cultural) shift
  snowboarding was a ~ in the world of skiing
catalyst for moving
  the Morton case is going to be a ~ reforms forward (law)
economic catalyst
  she said the museum would be an ~
served as a catalyst
  the crash served as a ~ to mend relations (Poland-Russia)

initiation: chemistry

catapult (verb)
catapulted Western Europe to (global) dominance
  the industrial revolution ~
catapulted him to fame
  his admission ~
catapulted Obama into the White House
  the type of voter who ~
catapulted into the ranks
  the company has ~ of top tech companies
catapulted over (more veteran) officials
  she ~ (government promotion)
catapulted from an unknown to a superstar
  he ~
throwing, putting & planting: mechanism / verb
catapulted
catapulted to the forefront
  he has been ~ of the death-penalty debate
catapulted to stardom
  she was plucked from obscurity and ~ (talent show)
catapulted out of obscurity
  he was ~ (a politician who won an election)
catapulted from obscurity to (prime-time) fame
  he was ~ (an actor)
throwing, putting & planting: mechanism
catch up (pursuit)
catch up (catch up to something)
catching up to men
  women are ~ in their number of partners
catching up to science fiction
  reality is finally ~ (AI)
progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running & jumping / verb
catch up (catch up with something)
catch up with the technologies
  standards have begun to ~ (biometrics)
catch up with the outside world
  Fanning Island is anxious to ~ (Kiribati)
  * "Let's keep moving, guys. Keep the line tight and keep it moving. United 8114, I need you to catch up with the group." (An air-traffic controller, directing traffic.)
**progress & lack of progress:** movement / walking, running & jumping / verb

**catchy (attention)**

catchy headlines
these are ~

attention, scrutiny & promotion: hunting

**cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.)**

Cathedral Cave
large elliptical cupolas have been found in ~ (Australia)

Cathedral Mountain
we visited ~ (Tasmania)

Cathedral Room
~ is 204 feet high (Marvel Cave, Missouri)

**proper name: religion**

**cathedral (resemblance)**

calcite cathedrals
these flooded caves are spectacular ~ of stalactites…

resemblance: religion

**cathedral (other)**

cathedral
mountains are truly ~s ("Big" Jim Whittaker)

it’s my church, it’s my ~ (Yosemite on foot in winter)

cathedral of stock-car racing
Daytona track, the ~…

cathedrals for fly fishermen
the waters here are ~ (Montana)

enthusiasm / reverence: religion

**caught (caught up in something)**

catched up (again) in drugs
go back out on the streets and get ~

catched up in the film
I was ~ and didn’t hear the door open

catched up in a web
~ of drug addiction and crime

catched up in red tape
his expedition got ~

catched up in the drinking
I just got ~ and the drugs and fighting

don’t get caught up in that
~ (weight loss / low self-esteem)

got caught up in red tape
his expedition ~

Involvement: hunting

**caught (other)**

catched in the middle
civilians are ~ (war)

catched in the open
3 people ~ suffocated in the dust storm (Kansas / 1935)

catched in a (lightning) storm
they were ~ on a mountainside

catched in a (ferocious) storm
they were ~ near the summit of Les Droites

catched in a rip current
if you become ~, swim parallel to shore

catched in the drift ice
we’d be ~, but it was all right (fishing)

catched in a crossfire
three soldiers were ~

catched on film
unsuspecting women ~… (Internet porn)

become caught
if you ~ in a rip current, swim parallel to shore

the straps of his river sandals ~ on a rock

Involvement: hunting

**cauldron (noun)**

cauldron of (internal) controversy
the Republican party is a ~

cauldron of grievances
a ~ bubbles beneath the surface

cauldron of socialization
the school bus used to be a ~

cauldron of (sectarian) violence
the country has become a ~

cauldron of war, violence and brutality
the US has hurled Afghanistan into the ~

witch’s cauldron
the US is a ~ of unemployment and poor education

bubbling cauldron
the country has become a ~ since Ben Ali left (Tunisia)

simmering (political and ethnic) cauldrons
Tibet and Xinjiang are ~

red-hot cauldron
the Middle East is a ~ (protests, etc.)

revolutionary cauldron
many emerge from the ~ to become conservatives

send its children into that cauldron
a humane society would not ~ (war)

environment: container / fire / heating water / temperature
caustic (adjective)
the leaked cables contained ~s of world leaders
caustic comment
she made a few ~s
caustic observation
she offered some ~s about their qualifications
caustic remark
they direct a lot of ~s and mockery
caustic welcome
he got a ~ (politics)
blunt and (sometimes) caustic
defended his ~ style (governor)
speech: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation
feeling, emotion & effect: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation
caustically
caustically critical
she is now ~ (about school reform)
once a supporter, she is now ~ (an educator)
caustically funny
she is ~ (comic)
caustically intelligent
he is ~
caustically witty
his song is ~
caustically described
she ~ him as a figurehead
cautiously dismiss
some scientists ~ his claims
said caustically
but he ~, "On a political level, …
speech: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation
cavalcade (noun)
cavalcade of (Nashville) artists
she is joined by a ~ (an album)
cavalcade of (celebrity) cameos
the film featured a ~
cavalcade of arm gestures
his every sentence is punctuated by a ~ (a politician)
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: horse
group, set & collection: horse
cavalier (adjective)
cavalier attitude
he had a ~ towards going to war (a hawk)
cavalier and disrespectful
Pelosi said Barr was ~ (at a Senate hearing)
♦ The root is from caballus, Latin for horse, with the meaning of supercilious. The rider has always been dominant over the man who walks.
character & personality: height / horse
hierarchy: height / horse
cave in (verb)
caved
instead of doubling down on his policy, he ~
caved in
I ~, just as Jean knew I would (and admitted truth)
cave in to his fears
he refuses to ~ (a stock-market investor)
cave in to (Serb) pressure
Europe will ~ (diplomacy)
caved in under the weight
the regime finally ~ of its impossible contradictions
cave to threats or fear
he did not ~ (from MS-13 members)
failure, accident & impairment: mining / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: mining / verb
ceasefire (noun)
Ceasefire on Immigration
Clergy urge ~ (politics)
ceasefire in the war
there needs to be a ~ of words (dispute)
judicial ceasefire
the DA's office has offered to declare a ~ (drop charges)
conflict: military
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: military
starting, going, continuing & ending: military
ceiling (glass ceiling)
glass ceiling
the ~ is alive and well on Wall Street
glass ceiling for women in politics
there is a perceived ~ (Massachusetts)
glass ceilings and other barriers
~ barring women
Japan's glass ceiling
she has helped to crack ~ (Toshiba team leader)
Oscars' glass ceiling
Kathryn Bigelow broke the ~ (Best Director)
age barrier, (no) gender gap, (no) glass ceiling
no ~
break the glass ceiling
success is the best way to ~
broke the (Oscars') glass ceiling
Kathryn Bigelow ~ (first woman Best Director)
raise the glass ceiling
quotas could ~ (employment)
shatter that glass ceiling
women can ~ once and for all
obstacles & impedance: infrastructure
constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure
celling (debt ceiling, etc.)
debt ceiling
politicians battle over budget deficits and the ~
biological ceiling
120 years old is the ~ for human longevity
obstacles & impedance: infrastructure
constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure
celing (high point)
ceiling and the floor
his numbers have been durable, the ~ (president’s popularity)

Increase & decrease: direction / height / house

cement (verb)
cemented his position
he has ~ as front-runner in the race (politics)
cemented his status
the show ~ as Britain’s best rapper (Glastonbury)
cement her surge
she is looking to ~ in opinion polls (politician)
strength & weakness: materials & substances / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb
center (society)
center
you drive people from the ~ towards the fringes (extremism)

Society: center & periphery

Centerpiece
centerpiece
its ~ is the Inc. record label (a studio)
a ~ of their argument is… (scientific evidence)
centerpiece of the Circumpolar North
the Arctic Ocean is the ~
centerpiece of his agenda
he has made it the ~ (crime bill)
centerpiece of our (domestic) agenda
health care is the ~
centerpiece of her campaign
her support of Medicare was the ~ (politician)
centerpiece of their culture
the camel is the ~ (Arab Bedouins)
centerpiece of their lives
for many people, work is the ~
centerpiece of their plan
city officials see the pier as the ~ to unify various sites
importance & significance: center & periphery / position
central (adjective)
central
the military is ~ (in Egyptian society)
importance & significance: center & periphery

cesspool (noun)
cesspool
the neighborhood is a ~ that breeds crime
cesspool of corruption
college sports are a ~
cesspools of fraud
the federal mortgage agencies are ~
cesspool of negativity
the Internet can be a ~ (consumer reviews, comments)
cesspool of character assassination
the Web site is a ~ (gossip site in rural towns)
reality-show cesspool
it’s hard to stand out in the ~ (TV)
ethical cesspool
he is disgusted by the ~ of Albany (New York politics)
moral cesspool
this is indicative of the ~ that is America (nudity on TV)
social cesspool
the tenements are ~s (1903)
clean the cesspool
they are trying to ~ (Web)
drain this (stinking) cesspool
he wants to ~ (New York politics)
environment: hygiene
corruption: smell

Chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff)
separating the wheat from the chaff
G-2 had great difficulty ~ (military intelligence)
worth & lack of worth: wheat
chain (configuration)
chain of camps
the porters established a ~ up the mountain
chain of islands
the southern end of the ~ known as Lofoten (Norway)
chain of mountains
this great ~ (Caucasus Mountains)

human chain
policemen formed ~a (Haj)
arriving police formed a ~ (rescue boys in river)

island chain
a nearby ~ was evacuated (typhoon);
an ~ that is part of the Antarctic peninsula

mountain chain
the Rwenzori ~ includes Africa's third highest peak

750-mile chain
a ~ of rugged mountains (the Caucasus)
divided into four chains
Tonga is composed of 140 islands ~

configuration: chain

chain (chain of events)

chain of events
the ~ that caused the airliner to crash
problems in this ~ (conception and infertility)

chains of events
describing hypothetical ~, he noted if…

chain of critical events
disasters are triggered by a ~ (engineering, crashes, etc.)

bizarre chain of events
in a ~, a passenger was killed… (NJ Transit Train)
surprise and sadness at the ~ (astronaut arrested)

fatal chain of events
the ~ began at 10:04 (car wreck)
falling debris started the ~ (loss of shuttle Columbia)

hypothetical chains of events
describing ~, he noted if…

sequence: chain

chain (oppression)

people's chains
we must break the shackles of an oppressed ~

oppression: chain

chain (other)

chain of custody
drug screeners must follow the ~

chain of evidence
a ~ ties him to the crime
the ~ must be preserved (rape)

chain of (massive) explosions
Lagos struggled to recover from a ~ (ammo)

chain of trial and error
behind every discovery is a long ~ (astronomy)

cold chain
the ~—keeping the vaccine refrigerated (for measles)

supply chain
ey they have a very efficient ~ (Wal-Mart)
the army's ~ across the open desert is vulnerable to attack

link in the (global) chain
you're only as secure as the weakest ~ of information

sequence: chain

chain of command

chain of command
contact your immediate ~ if you believe…(military)
requests go through the normal ~ (military)
he forwards the report through the ~ (military)
the information went up the ~ to President Bush

program's chain of command
the ~

launch-control chain of command
those in the ~ (NASA)

top-down chain of command
older workers are used to a ~ (business)

military chain of command
federal military forces remain under the ~

level in the chain of command
the highest appropriate ~ must address…

complained (for months) to the chain of command
he ~ about the poor gear

come down from the chain of command
a memo had ~ that said…

hierarchy: chain / military

chain reaction

chain reaction
the ~ can go on for centuries (cyanide pollution)

chain-reaction accident
a ~ that involved 125 vehicles (fog in Georgia);
low visibility caused a number of ~s (dust storm)

chain-reaction crash
the ~ happened in a snowstorm (highway)

chain reaction wreck
16 cars had a ~

chain reaction of car hitting car
a ~ (traffic pileup)

sequence: chain

chainsaw (noun)

take a chainsaw to regulations
he wants to ~ (politics)

dismissal, removal & resignation: tools & technology
chalice (poisoned chalice)
poisoned chalice
the United job is a ~ (English soccer)
fate, fortune & chance: allusion / food & drink
appearance & reality: allusion / food & drink
chameleon (change)
style chameleons
celebrities tend to be ~, changing their looks
appearance & reality: animal
champion (noun)
champion of social justice
he was a ~
superlative: military
channel (direct)
channeled (corporate) donation to Texas state races
he ~ (a convicted politician)
channeled his fears in music
he ~ (sickness therapy)
channel his (mental) illness to stay
he learned how to ~ functional
channels (more) money to (local) health centers
his plan ~ (reform)
channeled her unhappiness into writing
she ~
directing: verb / water
channel (through channels)
through administrative channels
submit requests ~ (military)
through diplomatic channel
India informed the US ~s that…
through operational channels
send NBC reports ~ (military)
through proper channels
a request has to go through ~
submit requests through administrative channels
informed the US through diplomatic channels
Spain ~ that…
send NBC reports through operational channels
go through proper channels
a report has to ~
directing: water
channel (distribution channel, etc.)
distribution channel
a new ~ has arisen (e-commerce)
supply chains, ~s, costs and cycle times
route: water
channeled
channeled to paramilitaries
US dollars have been ~
channeled through the I.S.I.
Pakistan wants talks with the Taliban to be ~
channeled to militants
it is not clear how much money is ~
channeled and exploited
people's anger is being ~ by corporate interests (politics)
directing: water
chaperon (person)
worldly chaperon
he positioned himself as the grownup in the room, the ~
experience: person
control & lack of control: person
chapter
chapter
I'm definitely glad that ~ is over (in a career)
chapter of the (euthanasia) debate
ending that ~
chapter of history
we are spectators in a ~ (a significant labor dispute)
chapter of their lives
as they venture into this next ~ (retirement)
chapter of your life
it's kind of sad to end a ~ (breakup of band)
chapter of our (not-so-recent) past
that troubling ~
chapter in a career
fans witnessed another bizarre ~ that… (Mike Tyson)
chapter in his life
he started a new ~
chapter in the (still-unfolding) story
a ~
concluding chapter
the play was the ~ in a spellbinding story (series of plays)
troubling chapter
that ~ of our not-so-distant past
bizarre chapter
fans witnessed another ~ in his career (a boxer)
dark chapter
we would rather close this ~ of our history and move on
darkest chapter
his capture was one of the country's ~s of the war

final chapter
the war against terrorism is not near its ~

last chapter
a bizarre ~ in a divorce battle (townhouse explodes)

latest chapter
the ~ in the long, checkered history of...
this ~ has only tightened the family bonds (injury)
this is the ~ in the tragedy that is Haiti (epidemic)

new chapter
he is poised to write a triumphant ~ (Obama)

next chapter
as they venture into this ~ of their lives (retirement)

painful chapter
it was a ~ in Indian history (white boarding schools)

succession of chapters
the lives of athletes are a ~ (playground, NBA, China)

begin the (next) chapter
he will ~ of his distinguished career

close that chapter
we want to ~ in the department (remedy for racism)
it was time to ~ of my life (quit job)

close this chapter
it is time to ~ in our history (discrimination)

close a (tragic) chapter
the resolution will help ~ in Balkan history (apology)

write more chapters
it's been a storybook season, hopefully we can ~ (team)

write a (new) chapter
the protests could ~ in Arab politics

development: books & reading

charade (noun)
Charade of Changing the World
Winners Take All: The Elite ~ (a book)

stop this charade
we need to ~ ("rubber rooms" for bad teachers)

performance / subterfuge: sports & games
substance & lack of substance: sports & games

charge (lead the charge)

leading the charge
Republicans are ~ (for fiscal responsibility)
the young people are ~ (new media)

led the charge
he disappeared when he should have ~ (a politician)

led the charge to go
Republicans ~ to war with Iraq

led the charge to overturn
he ~ the ban

led the charge for restricting
the three organizations have ~ immigration

led the charge against the notion
he ~ of human-caused global warming

led the charge against charter schools
school boards have ~

led the charge for (educational) reform
he ~

led the charge for (greater) regulation
Democrats have ~

driving force: military / verb

charisma (attraction)
a lot of charism
he has ~ (a politician)

attraction & repulsion: religion

charm (verb)
charmed New Yorkers with his humor
the mayor ~
charmed everyone with her culture, grace and beauty
she ~
charmed her with his good humor
he ~
charmed his way into homes and shops
he ~ (the photographer Peter Sekaer)
charmed the audience
he ~ (a dancer)
charmed fans
Baghdatis ~ at the 2006 Australian Open (tennis)
charms people
with his gentle manner, he ~ wherever he goes (a boxer)
charmed reporters
while he has ~, others find him abrasive
charmed and impressed
she ~ colleagues with her low-key style and commitment

feeling, emotion & effect: magic / verb
attraction & repulsion: magic / verb

charm (noun)
charm bracelet
her ~ spelled out "LOVE"
one of the year's hottest jewelry fads is the ~
charm campaign
Sudan's ~
charm school
beauty pageants and charm schools

classical charm and beauty
for centuries, visitors praised Basra’s ~

charmer, warmth and vivacity
stories of her ~ are innumerable

period charm
set in 1980, the show has a certain ~

attraction & repulsion: magic
charmed (charmed life, etc.)

classical charm circle
teachers compete to enter the ~ of tenured academe
they spend their time in a ~ (acquaintances, etc.)

charmed existence
he enjoyed a ~, and then his family was poor

charmed life
she led a ~ (affluent)

charmed run
their ~ finally ended (sports team)

charmed years
for a few ~, he was on top (success)

protection & lack of protection: magic
charmed (charmed by something, etc.)

charmed by the architecture
he was ~ (buying a house)

charmed by the (rugged) beauty
we were ~ of New Mexico

charmed by his speeches
voters were ~ and inspired by his vision (Obama)

charmed by the terrain
the young artist was ~ (the desert)

charmed by her good-heartedness
we were ~

feeling, emotion & effect: magic
attraction & repulsion: magic
charming (people)

charming
he was cute, he was ~, he was very athletic… (psycho)

utterly charming
she could be ~ (a narcissist)

character & personality: magic
attraction & repulsion: magic
chart (verb)
chart its own course
Iraq is free to ~
chart a (fresh) course

helping convicted felons ~
charted a (new) course
President Obama has ~ for the next two years
chart the future
Iraqis will ~ of Iraq
chart a new path
the leader is trying to ~

direction: boat / journeys & trips / verb
chase (verb)
chase after their dreams
artists and actors ~

chase headlines
scientists who manipulate data and ~

pursuit, capture & escape: walking, running & jumping / verb
chase down (verb)
chase it (all) down
but what is the implicit comedy of that song, if you ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation: walking, running & jumping / verb
chasms
chasms between Africans and African-Americans
the ~ (in Ghana)

widen into a chasm
the cracks could ~ (politics)

division & connection: ground, terrain & land
chatter (data)
jump in (suspicious) chatter
there has been a ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound
obstacles & impedance: sound
activity: sound
check (in check)
in check
we have to keep North Korea ~

control & lack of control: chess / sports & games
checkmate (noun)
checkmate
your American critics say you have run out of moves, ~

resistance, opposition & defeat: chess / sports & games
cheap shot
cheap shot
he may have thought his ~ was funny, but it wasn’t
his comment was a ~, totally unwarranted (insult)
his insinuation is unsubstantiated and a ~
s get cheap laughs
cheap shot against him
that was a real ~ (a comment in newspaper)
cheap shot against the White House
she has taken a ~ (political commentary)
cheap-shot artist
he’s a clever ~ (a political comedian)
cheap shot and dirty trick
he has bashed him with every ~ in the book (politics)
takes a cheap shot
she ~ at him when she says…
♦ In sports, a cheap shot refers to an unnecessary and vicious hit on a defenseless player.

behavior: sports & games
speech: sports & games / violence
checkbook
open their checkbooks
a few companies may ~ (reparations for slavery)
money: purses & wallets
checkpoint (at a checkpoint)
at progress checkpoints
assign a grade or points ~ (projects / schools)
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement
cheer (noun)
cheers and boos
the judge’s decision drew ~
judgment: sound
achievement, recognition & praise: sound
cheer (cheer on)
cheered him on
everybody ~ (musician who abused underaged girls)
allegiance, support & betrayal: sound / verb
achievement, recognition & praise: sound / verb
cheerlead (verb)
cheerlead for big projects
volunteers are less likely to ~ (Peace Corps)
enthusiasm: school & education / person / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: school & education / verb
cheerleader (person)
cheerleader
Roger Ver is its most visible ~ (Bitcoin Cash)
cheerleaders for the Pentagon
some say they served as ~ (reporters)
cheerleader for the city
he is a ~ (mayor of Las Vegas)
cheerleader for the superiority
she is a ~ of all things American
cheerleader for war
he was the exile ~ (an Iraqi)
enthusiasm: person / school & education
attention, scrutiny & promotion: person / school & education
person: school & education
chemistry
chemistry of the team
he insists the ~ is fine (troubled NFL team)
chemistry between client and therapist
~ is crucial (psychotherapist)
chemistry between a boxer and a trainer
the ~ is crucial
screen chemistry
the two actors have so much ~ (movie)
on-screen chemistry
they had great ~ (Donna Reed and John Wayne)
team chemistry
his top priority is to improve ~ (sports)
good chemistry
teams, actors, orchestras require ~
are teams good because they have ~
do teams have ~ because they are good
~ sometimes trumps outright talent (sports team)
lack of chemistry
~ is blamed for failure
wealth of chemistry
~ is credited for success
chemistry can trump talent
good ~ (sports teams)
have chemistry
in sports, good teams ~
hurt the (team) chemistry
he ~ (an athlete)

"Chemistry is when you hang around each other when you don't have to. That's us." (Chris Weber, speaking of the Sacramento Kings, an NBA team.)

functioning / mixture: chemistry
Chemnobil

rainforest Chernobyl
Texaco created a ~ (toxic waste in Ecuador)
destruction: history / nuclear energy / place
failure, accident & impairment: history / nuclear energy / place
cherubic (adjective)
cherubic preteen
a ~ with a gentle smile
appearance: creature / religion

chicken (chicken and egg)
chicken and egg
this is the classic ~ that has plagued rural America (housing)
chicken and the egg
it's kind of the ~ (support for losing team)
chicken and egg problem
it's a ~
chicken-and-egg problem
it's a ~ (plants need oil, oil refineries need power)
relationship: bird

chicken (come home to roost)
chickens coming home to roost
this is a sort of ~ (political battle)
this is a case of the ~ (Malcolm X on JFK)
they came home to roost
these chickens took a very long flight before ~ (scandal)

Justice of Roasting Chickens
On the ~ (notorious book blaming West for 9/11)

reversal: animal / bird / justice
judgment: animal / bird / justice

chicken-hearted
chicken-hearted
he is ~ (afraid)
courage & lack of courage: animal / bird
heart: bird

chicken (chicken out)
chicken out
he ~ and never gave her the letter
courage & lack of courage: animal / bird / verb

chieftain (noun)
corporate chieftain
~s who sell off shares of their companies (ethics)
banking industry chieftain
a former ~
power: person / military

child (spoiled child)
West's spoiled child
Israel is the ~
behavior: family / person

child (product)
child of Soviet and post-Soviet Russia
he was a cynical ~

identity & nature: family / person

chill (feeling)
chill
I get ~s thinking about it (an exciting event)

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

chill (oppression)

sent a chill through the academic world
the sentences ~ (China arrests)
oppression: temperature

chilling (adjective)
chilling
the accusations against him are ~ (a terrorist)
chilling account
he has written a ~ of the murder (writer)
chilling effect
this will have a ~ on the coal industry (project vetoed)
these bills will have a ~ (Internet regulation)
chilling incident
there have been two ~s (religious attacks)
chilling message
it was a ~
chilling street name
the crimes have a ~, "Guat-bashing" (Guatemalans)
feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

chilly
chilly toward women's soccer
England has been ~
chilly reception
she received a ~ (a politician)
chilly response
he got a ~ from… (meeting / law-enforcement officers)
feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

chime in (verb)
chimed in that
he ~ he does the same thing (conversation)
chimed in on the controversy
readers ~
chimed in with his own statement
he has ~
chimed in from Haiti
he ~ (a reporter)
involvement: sound / verb
speech: sound / verb
chink (noun)

chink in her opponent's armor
she uncovered a critical chink in her ~

chink in his armor
she found a ~
the one ~ has been... (an athlete)
he has not been able to find a ~ (tennis)

chink in conditioning
any ~ could mean defeat (Olympic swimming)

chink of vulnerability
he hasn’t shown a ~

flaws & lack of flaws: hole
protection & lack of protection: hole

chip (bargaining chip)
bargaining chip
the proposals are on the table as a ~
bargaining chip in (peace) negotiations
the fleet was a ~ (World War I)

position, policy & negotiation: gambling
chip (chips fall, etc.)
let the chips fall where they may
let’s have the hearing and ~ (investigation)

chips may fall
the ~ in ways that are uncomfortable for all sides

fate, fortune & chance: tree

choker, choke (verb)
choking on its own success
China is ~ (pollution)

choke on those words
Sanders would ~ (perfect is the enemy of good)

affliction: bodily process / breathing / throat / verb
acceptance & rejection: stomach
consumption: food & drink

choker (fail)

choke during pressure
she ~ (an athlete)

success & failure: breathing / verb

choker

choked

choked with emotion
...., he said, his voice ~

choked with people
the prisons are ~ who stole to eat (Mexico)

choked with traffic
crowded intersections ~ (Brooklyn)

boulder-choked (m)
the ~ Cheoah River in Graham County, western North Carolina

briar-choked (m)
as a boy, he explored the ~ woods behind his house

cholesterol-choked (m)
he needs an operation for his ~ arteries

smoke-choked (m)
the firefighters ascended the ~ stairwell

traffic-choked (m)
it has been a average, ~ rush hour (Los Angeles)

weed-choked (m)
behind the house was a ~ garden
the footbridge cross a ~ stream

obstacle & impedance: breathing

chokepoint

choke points, bridges, tunnels
identify ~ (military)

choke point or kill zone
as the enemy moves into the ~

chokepoints in the Northwest Passage
include one off Barrow, Alaska, and in Canada

choke points on interstates
~ and state highways

world's choke points
the ~—the Suez and Panama Canals, the Bab el Mandeb
the ~— the Straits of Gibraltar, and the Malacca Strait
strategically important chokepoint
it is one of the world’s ~ (Strait of Hormuz)

oil chokepoint
Hormuz is the most important ~ in the world

obstacle & impedance: breathing
chopping block (on the chopping block)
on the chopping block
their heads will be ~ the next election (politics)
my neck is ~ (accountability)
many social services are ~
their collective-bargaining rights are ~ (teachers)
put the school on the chopping block
officials have ~ (underperforming)
dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade
fate, fortune & chance: ax / blade
chopping block (other)
keep the program off the chopping block
supporters are trying to ~
saved from the chopping block
19 schools were ~
taken off the chopping block
some bus routes will be ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade
fate, fortune & chance: ax / blade
chops (expertise)
foreign-relation chops
any candidate will have to show their ~ (election)

experience: music
knowledge & intelligence: music
ability & lack of ability: music
chops (lick one’s chops)
licking their chops
energy companies are ~ at the prospect of new oil pipelines

eagerness & reluctance: animal / mouth
chord (resemblance)
chord of jealousy
some Russians detect a ~ (attitudes to immigrants)
evidence: sound

chord (strike a chord)
struck a chord with her book
she clearly ~
struck a chord with the (American) public
these cases have always ~ (capital cases)
striking a strong chord

his message is ~ with voters (about corruption)

feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb
effect: sound / verb
chorus (noun)
chorus of (outraged) denunciation from liberals
the term brought a ~ (Asianization)
chorus of critics
every four years a ~ call for an end to conventions
joined a chorus
she ~ of Democrats who have called on Mr. Barr to resign

amount & effect: music
christen (verb)
christened it the “green hell”
travelers ~ (Mato Grosso)
christened the plane the A320neo
Airbus ~
characterization: religion / verb
Christmas
Christmas
May is the ~ of the limousine business (proms)
superlative: epithet / day

church (noun)
church
it’s my ~, it’s my cathedral (Yosemite on foot in winter)

enthusiasm: religion
churn (move)
churned up the coast
a winter storm ~
churn through the (criminal justice) system
millions of people ~
movement: force / verb
churn out (verb)
churn out books
she continued to ~, among other pursuits (comic)
churn out (unneeded advanced) degrees
universities continue to ~
churn out jobs
small firms also ~ (economy)
churns out (around six and a half gallons of) milk
the cow ~ a day
churns out misinformation
the rumor mill ~
churning out the (popular) model
Boeing has been ~ at a breakneck rate (a plane)
churn out products factories ~

creation & transformation: manufacturing / tools & technology / verb

Cinderella

Cinderella story
T.M. Landry school has become a viral ~
♦ This story relates to unjust oppression and triumphant reward.

success & failure: allusion
oppression: allusion
circle (predation)
circling
his rivals are ~ (politics)
the vultures are already ~ on the web (health of official)
predation: animal / shark / verb

circle (a circle can close)
circle is closing
the ~ (around Saddam's regime / Iraqi Freedom)
a ~ (memories of Holocaust dim)
a ~ (Israeli Holocaust survivor returns to free Berlin)
♦ This expression seems to relate to the completion of a development, to something being finished.
development: shape
fate, fortune & chance: shape
circle (full circle)
comes full circle
this week she ~ (ends career where it started)
development: shape
circle (run circles around somebody)
running circles around us
China is ~ (in technology)
superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping
circle (go in circles)
going in circles
we're just ~

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb
circle back (verb)
circle back to something
let's ~ you mentioned, Marcia... (talk show)
circled back to you
this has all ~ (sex abuser gets long sentence)
circle back to the United States
I want to ~... (changing the subject, talk radio)
circle you back to the question
so let me ~ I posed at the onset (talk radio)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction /
journeys & trips / movement / verb
past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
circled
circled by a (jogging) trail
the park is ~
circled with (high) walls
the towns are ~ (Palestine)

circle (a circle can close)
circle is closing
the ~ (around Saddam's regime / Iraqi Freedom)
a ~ (memories of Holocaust dim)
a ~ (Israeli Holocaust survivor returns to free Berlin)
♦ This expression seems to relate to the completion of a development, to something being finished.
development: shape
fate, fortune & chance: shape
circle (full circle)
comes full circle
this week she ~ (ends career where it started)
development: shape
circle (run circles around somebody)
running circles around us
China is ~ (in technology)
superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping
circle (go in circles)
going in circles
we're just ~

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb
circle back (verb)
circle back to something
let's ~ you mentioned, Marcia... (talk show)
circled back to you
this has all ~ (sex abuser gets long sentence)
circle back to the United States
I want to ~... (changing the subject, talk radio)
circle you back to the question
so let me ~ I posed at the onset (talk radio)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction /
journeys & trips / movement / verb
past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
circled
circled by a (jogging) trail
the park is ~
circled with (high) walls
the towns are ~ (Palestine)

circle (a circle can close)
circle is closing
the ~ (around Saddam's regime / Iraqi Freedom)
a ~ (memories of Holocaust dim)
a ~ (Israeli Holocaust survivor returns to free Berlin)
♦ This expression seems to relate to the completion of a development, to something being finished.
development: shape
fate, fortune & chance: shape
circle (full circle)
comes full circle
this week she ~ (ends career where it started)
development: shape
circle (run circles around somebody)
running circles around us
China is ~ (in technology)
superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping
circle (go in circles)
going in circles
we're just ~

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb
circle back (verb)
circle back to something
let's ~ you mentioned, Marcia... (talk show)
circled back to you
this has all ~ (sex abuser gets long sentence)
circle back to the United States
I want to ~... (changing the subject, talk radio)
circle you back to the question
so let me ~ I posed at the onset (talk radio)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction /
journeys & trips / movement / verb
past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
circled
circled by a (jogging) trail
the park is ~
circled with (high) walls
the towns are ~ (Palestine)

circle (a circle can close)
circle is closing
the ~ (around Saddam's regime / Iraqi Freedom)
a ~ (memories of Holocaust dim)
a ~ (Israeli Holocaust survivor returns to free Berlin)
♦ This expression seems to relate to the completion of a development, to something being finished.
development: shape
fate, fortune & chance: shape
circle (full circle)
comes full circle
this week she ~ (ends career where it started)
development: shape
circle (run circles around somebody)
running circles around us
China is ~ (in technology)
superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping
circle (go in circles)
going in circles
we're just ~

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb
circle back (verb)
circle back to something
let's ~ you mentioned, Marcia... (talk show)
circled back to you
this has all ~ (sex abuser gets long sentence)
circle back to the United States
I want to ~... (changing the subject, talk radio)
circle you back to the question
so let me ~ I posed at the onset (talk radio)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction /
journeys & trips / movement / verb
past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
circled
circled by a (jogging) trail
the park is ~
circled with (high) walls
the towns are ~ (Palestine)
flights have been cancelled since the ~ began (eruption)
clampdown by China on Tibet
the speech was in reaction to a new ~
clampdown by the authorities on credit
a new ~ could hurt domestic demand
clampdown on opponents
the arrest are part of a broader ~
government clampdown
the ~ includes a strict curfew
major clampdown
security forces engaged in a ~
vicious clampdown
the ~ has estranged millions from the regime
promoted a clampdown on intellectuals
the government ~

pressure: tools & technology
coercion & motivation: violence
oppression: pressure

clash (verb)
clashed with the network
but he ~ and resigned (a reporter

conflict: sound / verb

clash (noun)
clash
the ~ showed how a small spark could ignite another war
clash with Henry Kissinger
he left government after a ~
maritime clash
the ~ has hardened opinion against China
wild clash
a ~ erupted during a motorcycle rally

conflict: sound

clean (verb)
clean the cesspool
they are trying to ~ (of the Web)
clean our shame
kill yourself and ~ or we will kill you first (honor killing)

amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb

clean (come clean)
come clean with the information
they should ~ they have (nuclear power plant)
came clean
he ~ and confirmed what many had suspected
come clean
if you’re a sinner, ~ (a preacher)

instead of letting the questions fester, why not ~

concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb
amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb

clean (a clean record, etc.)
clean of corruption
he is widely viewed as ~ (government)
clean (final) draft
the writer finally produced a ~ (on a typewriter)
clean (driving) record
I have a ~

flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene

clean (addiction)
clean
she has been ~ for two years (an addict)
get clean
he spent a decade struggling to ~

condition & status: addiction / hygiene

cleanse (violence)
cleanse the area of agents
we must ~
cleanse the Foca area of Muslims
the purpose of the Serb campaign was “to ~”
cleansing their enemies
they are ~ (government loyalists against protestors)

violence: hygiene / verb

cleansing (ethnic cleansing)
victims of ethnic cleansing
they claim they are the ~

violence: hygiene

clean up (speech)
cleaned up the language
they have ~ to make Mark Twain available to schools

speech: hygiene / verb

clean up (improve)
clean up your act
you need to ~
clean up your document
review and ~ (text document)
clean up its image
in a drive to ~, the club holds charity events (bikers)
clean up the mess
he has had to ~ the previous administration created
we need to ~ in government (politician)
cleaning up this mess
we're ~ (diplomacy)
clean up (Mexico's human rights) record
Fox has promised to ~, but…
clean up her reputation
if the book is seen as an attempt to ~…
clean up their resumes
even engineers have learned to ~
clean up the sport
it may be impossible to ~ of cycling (Tour de France)
clean up the (education) system
it will be difficult to ~

amelioration & renewal: hygiene / verb
cleanup (military)
cleanup operation
she was a victim of a government ~ against the rebels

violence: hygiene
clear (crystal clear)
crystal-clear
it was ~ that…
crystal clear
the Second Amendment is ~
crystal-clear (m)
the trouble is the show doesn't have a ~ message
certainty & uncertainty: light & dark
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark
clear (perception)
clear picture
confused parents have no ~ of their kids
clear seeing
the crystal was the symbol of the mind and of ~ (Navaho)

perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark
clear (clear conscience)
clear conscience
you can sell them to widows and orphans with a ~
guilt: light & dark
clear (unambiguous)
clear
it was not ~ how many would take the advice
it is not ~ if…
it's not ~ how long the warming cycle will last
make it ~ that it was nobody's fault
as many writings of the frontier era make ~
the specific target of the threats was not ~ (terrorism)
dirty air is often blamed, but its role isn't ~ (asthma)
clear to him
what was ~ was invisible to others (native tracker)
clear how
it's not ~ one would deter an attack like 9/11
clear whether
he did not make ~ he supported a timeline or a deadline
clear if
it is not ~ they are using any sterile technique at all
clear directions
the nurse must give ~ (when delegating tasks)
clear evidence
we see ~ that…
clear goal
the decisive use of force with a ~ (military)
clear indication
the results from this testing provided the first ~ of…
clear link
no ~ between thimerosal and autism has been found
clear objectives
establish ~ (warfare)
clear (but unstated) objective
the ~ was to…
clear proof
the company had ~ the drug was dangerous
clear provenance
museums should refuse antiquities without a ~
clear sign
take it as a ~ he's not interested
clear signal
no ~s from the miners had been heard since… (cave-in)
clear strategy
we need a ~ to achieve those goals (Iraq)
clear threat
the town seemed under ~ of destruction (wildfire)
clear warnings
the pilot missed ~ and crashed (airport)
clear warnings
signs should give ~ of the end of the detour (military)
clear directions and instructions
did the nurse give ~
clear guidelines
have ~ on what behavior is not acceptable
clear, concise (m)
the commander issues ~ orders and guidance
clear, concise, and complete
make the text ~ (military message)
clear and consistent
be ~ (disciplining a toddler)
clear and convincing (m)
there is no ~ proof that...
clear and present (m)
experts see a ~ danger (terrorism / Olympics)
clear and thorough (m)
explains information in a ~ manner (nurse assistant)
clear, unambiguous (m)
provide ~ instructions (teachers)
make clear
as many writings of the frontier era ~
he did not ~ if he supported a timeline or a deadline
make it clear
~ that it was nobody’s fault
made his position clear
he ~
certainty & uncertainty: light & dark
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark
clear-eyed (adjective)
clear-eyed about the risks
we are ~
consciousness & awareness: eye
clear up (verb)
clear (all) this up
he could ~ by releasing the records (controversy)
amelioration & renewal: light & dark
cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.)
fiscal cliff
the country is headed off a ~ of runaway spending
fell off a cliff
but then demand ~ (poor economy)
fallen off a cliff
venture capital investing ~ (low returns)
fallen off an economic cliff
we have just ~ (recession)
going over a cliff
the economy is ~
push American off a (fiscal) cliff
political paralysis may ~
+ “He has put himself on a one-way road heading toward a cliff and there is no turning back.”
destruction: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills / verb
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills / verb
decline: direction / ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills / verb
climate (environment)
climate of cooperation
a ~ between the media and police
climate of fear
there is still a pervasive ~ (Basra under Baath control)
climate of (growing) hostility
coming of age in a ~ to immigration
climate of intimidation
an election marred by low turnout and a ~
climate of violence
a ~ has always run through American politics
climate of fear and anxiety
people are living in a ~
climate of fear and intimidation
people live in a ~ (Iraq / Baath party)
climate of backlash
today in the ~ against bilingual education
command climate
our ~ surveys measure toxic leadership (military)
you are accountable for true ~ (military officers)
investment climate
the nanotechnology ~ is warming up
work climate
a negative ~ is created
classroom climate
establish a ~ that supports learning
create a ~ that is accepting, comfortable, and noncompetitive
(schools)
revenue-driven climate
UCLA is in a ~ (coach fired for losing record)
bitter (political) climate
the increasingly ~ ahead of elections next summer
negative (work) climate
a ~ is created
poisonous (political and rhetorical) climate
politics suffers from a ~
political climate
the increasingly bitter ~ ahead of elections
a reporter asked him if he was afraid, given the ~
social climate
the ~ is bad there (a black / U-Michigan)
tense climate
the ~ following the terrorist attacks
create a (classroom) climate
~ that is accepting, comfortable, and noncompetitive
improve (class) climate
~ through incentives or rewards (teachers)
maintain a climate
we struggle to ~ that meets our expectations (rape in military)
♦ In the Chicago Tribune, on August 2, 2012, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist Dick Locher published a cartoon that relates the weather to the US climate of violence. It shows a TV weatherman, pointing to a weather map of the US with highs and lows. The caption reads, “LIGHT TO MODERATE GUNFIRE WITH OCCASIONAL SHOWERS OF AUTOMATIC WEAPON FIRE COUPLED WITH INTERMITTENT GUN SALES ACTIVITY AND SCATTERED DRIVE-BY SHOOTINGS.” Sadly, he died in 2017. (AAEC Ref Num: 113472.)

environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate

climax (noun)
climax
antagonism reached a ~ in 1994 (illegal immigrants)
climax of the Haj
the Standing on Mount Arafat is the ~
climax of my career
covering Haj is the ~ (a journalist)
climax of the (religious) festival
Shia pilgrims flocked to Karbala for the ~ (Ashura)
climax of the pilgrimage
the short trek to Mount Arafat, marking the ~
marks the climax
the ceremony ~ of the summer season (battlefield)
nearing a climax
the drama is ~ (who to select as goalkeeper)
reached its climax
partisan politics ~ with the impeachment

development: theater

climb (progress)
climbed a (well-worn) immigrant ladder
Chaudri ~ (dishwasher, cab driver)
way to climb
the people of Africa have a long ~
progress & lack of progress: direction / verb

climb (increase)
climbed to 612
as Los Angeles’ murder count ~ for the year
climbed to 40 degrees
as the temperature ~
climbed in velocity
the wind suddenly switched in direction and ~ (ship)
climbed 21%
Nokia earnings ~
climbed to $70
the price of a barrel of oil ~
continued to climb
as gasoline prices ~ last week
continues to climb
the online population ~
started climbing
in the 1980s the numbers of TV deaths in the US ~
earnings climbed
Nokia ~ 21%
fees are climbing
increase & decrease: direction / verb

climb (roads, etc.)
climbs the (green) slopes
Highway 37 ~ of Haleakala (Hawaii)
route: direction

fictive motion: verb

climb down (verb)
climbed down from his decision
he has ~ to expel US diplomats
climb down from all this
how do you ~ (diplomatic problem)
reversal: direction / verb

cling (verb)
cling to the belief
some parents ~ that vaccines cause autism
clung to his innocence
a large minority ~ (guilty verdict)
cling to their own language
in this region of China, where Tibetans ~ (Qinghai)
clinging to life
he is in the hospital, ~
cling to the marriage
she ~ for longer than she should have
cling to the past
it's foolish to ~ (an opinion)
clinging to power
how is he ~ (Maduro)
cling to their language and customs
the Berbers in the Kabylia region ~
cling to the traditions
Trinidad has ~ of carnival
cling to the (fading) values
he ~ of honor and omerta (mobster)

attachment: hand / verb
possession: hand / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: hand / verb
cloak (conceal)
cloaks itself in "Christian" values
the party cynically ~
cloak a bully's identity
the Internet can ~
concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / verb
cloak (under a cloak)
under a cloak of secrecy
she arrived in Yemen ~ (government official)
concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories
cloak (in a cloak)
in the cloak of journalism
gossip is dressed ~
in the cloak of reform and patriotism
scoundrels shroud themselves ~
concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories
cloak (other)
cloak of legality
judges twisted the law to give a ~ to crimes
cloak of secrecy
the White House has reaffirmed the ~ (Area 51)
the air force hung a ~ over the mission (X-37B)
cloak for (business-friendly) politicians
reform can provide a ~ to appear respectable
cover themselves in the (righteous) cloak
they ~ of religion (blasphemy laws)
reformer cloak
he has donned the ~
constitutional cloak
club members wrap themselves in a ~ (men only club)
hung a cloak (of secrecy) over the mission
the air force ~ (X-37B)
concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories
cloaked (covered)
mist-cloaked
the dispute centers over the ~ region of Tawang (India)
configuration / cover: clothing & accessories
cloaked (concealed)
cloaked in the mantle
blasphemy laws are ~ of religion
cloak-and-dagger
cloak-and-dagger precautions
they took elaborate ~
subterfuge: clothing & accessories
clobbered
clobbered by (relentless) rain
San Diego has been ~
hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / violence
clock (turn back the clock)
turn back the clock
we don’t want to ~ (plunging vaccination rates)
turn back the clock on aging
a wrinkle cream that promises to ~
turn back the clock on (racial) progress
they accuse him of helping to ~ (a judge)
turn back the clock (about) a hundred years
when we ~...
turn back the clock
you can’t ~ (return to the past)
maybe we can ~ (relationship)
past & present: clock / verb
time: clock
clock (types)
body clock
the best way to follow your natural ~
biological clock
jet lag and the ~
her ~ is ticking (motherhood)
time: clock
clock (race with the clock, etc.)
in a race with the clock
we are ~
racing the clock
we are ~ trying to prevent another tragedy (serial bombs)
they were ~, tying up their oyster boat (hurricane)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock / competition
competition: clock
time: clock / competition
clock (clock winds down, etc.)
clock is winding down
the ~ to the strike deadline
clock has run out
now the ~ (Brexit negotiations)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock
time: clock
clock (clock is ticking, etc.)
clock in the back of your head
you have this ~ of how much time you can spend (Everest)
clock is ticking
and now, the ~ to a royal wedding
the ~ (legal decision setting a deadline)
clock is ticking on his benefits
the ~ (unemployed)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock
time: clock
clock (reset the clock)
clock has been reset
the ~ (deadline extended)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock
clock (run out the clock)
run out the clock
the strategy is to punt to the courts and ~ (politics)
action, inaction & delay: clock / football / verb
clog (noun)
clog
such ~s affect users (distributed denial of service)
clog disappeared
highway officials added one lane and the ~ (traffic)
obstacles & impedance: water
clogged
clogged with people
Mexico's courts and jails are ~ Hurtado
clogged with rubbish
alleyways ~
clogged with traffic
the Central Artery is ~ day and night (Boston)
clogged with (cheap Chinese) motorbikes
streets are ~
clogged artery
Boston's ~ (the Central Artery)
clogged roads
he is perturbed by ~ (Seattle)
Mercedes-clogged (m)
we snaked our way through the ~ streets
snow-clogged (m)
a ~ mountain pass
keeping commuters off ~ streets and highways (blizzard)
traffic-clogged (m)
at the intersection of a ~ street
streets are clogged
~ with cheap Chinese motorbikes (Ho Chi Minh City)
obstacles & impedance: water
amount & effect: water
cloistered
cloistered himself in his (hotel) room
he ~ (from reporters)
cloistered atmosphere
she felt secure within the ~ (psychiatric ward)
remain cloistered
the Wakhis ~ in their world of wind and ice
isolation & remoteness: religion
division & connection: religion
avoidance & separation: religion
protection & lack of protection: religion
close (feeling)
close
we're very close (relationship)
feeling, emotion & effect: proximity
relationship: proximity
close-minded (adjective)
called his critics close-minded
he ~
mind: access & lack of access
mind: container
closet
closet homosexual
some people speculate that Hitler was a ~
closet radical
he is a ~ (accusation of one politician by another)
family closet
ghosts and phantoms from the ~
in the closet
living ~ brought her pain (a lesbian)
in O’Rourke’s closet
newly revealed skeletons have joined old ones ~ (a politician)
skeletons in our closet
I knew we had ~ (newspaper's lack of coverage of…)
skeletons in its (Communist) closet
Poland exhumes ~
skeletons in the closet
all the ~ are spilling out (Turkey)
emerging from the closet
more and more gay celebrities are ~
concealment & lack of concealment: house / skeleton

clotheslined

get clotheslined
you can ~ by a fence, cable, bar, swing, or a person

failure, accident & impairment: clothing & accessories

cloud (verb)

cloaked his judgment
roads ~

consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud / verb

cloud (cast a cloud)

cloud has been cast
~s over much of his work (fabricated data)

oppression: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow

feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow

cloud (under a cloud)

under a cloud
she has left the Olympics ~

under a cloud of suspicion
he lived ~

under a cloud of uncertainty
they continue to work ~

under a legal and ethics cloud
he is ~ because of the affair (politician)

lived under a cloud
he ~ of suspicion

get out from under the cloud
he couldn't ~ of suspicion

oppression: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow

feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow

cloud (dark cloud, etc.)

cloud
I had a ~ over my head
there is a ~ over the White House
dark cloud
there are still ~s on the horizon (economy)
economic cloud
he acknowledged ~s on the horizon
ethical cloud
he left under an ~ (government)
storm clouds
if there are some ~ on the horizon, they could come...

cloud has been lifted
the ~ over this presidency

cloud (hanging over the President) has been removed
the ~ by this report

♦ "I had a cloud over my head, and I knew that was a cloud that wasn't going to go away." (Problems at work.)

oppression: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow

feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / cloud / light & dark / shadow

cloud (resemblance)

cloud street
~s can indicate thermals (hang gliding)
~s are rows of cumulous clouds

bat cloud
radar can estimate the number of bats in a ~

resemblance: atmosphere / cloud

cloud (consciousness)

clouds of depression
antidepressants can help part the black ~

part the (black) clouds
antidepressants can help ~ of depression

consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud

cloud (sign)

war clouds
as ~ gathered over the region (Iraqi Freedom)
clouds gathered
but ~ quickly

evidence: atmosphere / cloud

cloaked

cloaked by drugs
his thinking was ~
cloaked in mystery
his past is ~

consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud

cloaked (consciousness)

cloaked with drugs
his mind was ~

consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / cloud

cloudy (certainty)

become cloudy
news can ~ when information is controlled (rumors)

certainty & uncertainty: cloud / light & dark

cloaked (noun)

cloaked of financial journalists
the ~ can affect the corporate bottom line
Washington's clout
~ is fading (diplomacy)

economic clout
Boeing has tremendous ~ (economy, jobs, etc.)

global clout
China's ~

immense clout
the business network carried ~ with investors

hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / violence
power: fist / violence
cloth (cut from cloth)
cut from different cloth
scientists are not ~ (self-interest)
cut from a different cloth
entrepreneurs are ~
cut from the same cloth
you and he don't seem to be ~ (husband and wife)
he is ~ as Steve Jobs (entrepreneurship)
Hussein, Gaddafi, Assad, Chavez, Kim, they're all ~
character & personality: cloth
identity & nature: cloth
taxonomy & classification: cloth
clown (verb)
clowning around
stop ~
stop clowning
behavior: circus / verb
clown (noun)
class clown
he was the ~, always dancing, singing, and joking
he survived bullies by acting as the ~ (Richard Pryor)
overrated, overhyped clown
he’s an overrated, ~ (said by a boxer of a boxer)
character & personality: circus
coach (verb)
coached her on how to answer
the sheriff ~ to the FBI
directing: sports & games
clumsy (adjective)
clumsy writer
at first she was a ~
ability & lack of ability: body
coal (rake somebody over the coals)
rake him over the coals
let's not ~s for a remark he made 30 years ago
punishment & recrimination: fire / verb
speech: fire / verb
coarse (adjective)
coarse word
it's a ~ (asshole)
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances
coast (attain)
coasted to victory
the team ~
difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / verb
attainment: movement / verb
coast (noun)
third coast
Atlanta is the ~ of rap (vs. LA, NY)
center & periphery: ground, terrain & land
cobble together (verb)
cobbled together a living
for a while she ~ acting and waitressing
cobbled together a video
he ~ with claims of an 'amazing cancer cure'
creation & transformation: clothing & accessories / verb
cocktail
cocktail of (psychoactive) drugs
he downs a daily ~ (mental illness)
cocktail of ash, acids, aerosols
the cloud, a toxic ~ (pollution / S. Asia)
cocktail of things
it’s a ~, it’s never one thing (what makes serial killers)
Disney’s cocktail
~ of morality, stereotypes and magic (animated films)
drug cocktail
new ~s make living with HIV a reality
toxic cocktail
the cloud, a ~ of ash, acids, aerosols (S. Asia)
mixture: alcohol / bird
cocoon (isolation)
cocoon of sorrow, rage and despair
he began to emerge from the ~ that had enveloped him
cocoon of high expectations
it was a ~ and harsh discipline (black school)
digital cocoon
she gets lost in her ~
ideological "cocoons"
the digital age makes it easy to spend your time in ~
security cocoon
he was wrapped in a tight ~ (president)
emerge from the cocoon
he began to ~ of sorrow, rage and despair
isolation & remoteness: insect
division & connection: insect
avoidance & separation: insect
protection & lack of protection: Insect
cocoon (resemblance)
cocoon of air bags
it bounced down in a ~ (Mars "Spirit")
resemblance: insect
cocooned
cocooned in a (dignified) silence
the stadium is now ~ (memorial to dead fans)
isolation & remoteness: insect
coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.)
nail in the coffin of the party
the immigration issue will be the final ~
final nail in the coffin
that was the ~
put the (final) nail in the coffin
he ~ when he… (sports victory)
♦ "I think that was the final nail in the coffin… that the church could no longer offer to subsidize these schools. But that was just the final straw… (Decline of Catholic schools.)
fate, fortune & chance: burial
destruction: burial
cog (noun)
cog
Evans was a ~ (one of thousands of government workers)
cog in the (Norwegian pedagogical) machine
he thinks of himself as a ~
♦ Notwithstanding the title of his book, _Men Against Death_ (1932), Paul De Kruif devotes a chapter of tribute to Alice Evans. Despite her being just a cog, a "mote among drab-seeming thousands…only a cow bacteriologist buried away in the U.S. Department of Agriculture…nothing more than a pleasant-looking girl bacteriologist, anonymous among insignificant boy and girl microbe hunters…destined to no famous end…plodding…her specialization…Ford-factoryish," she made an important contribution to science. De Kruif includes her in a pantheon of luminaries that includes Semmelweis, Banting and Best, Spencer, Evans, McCoy, Schaudinn, and Bordet in a book that reflects all of the biases of its time.
importance & significance: mechanism
coin (verb)
coined the term
he is often credited with having ~ ("virtual reality")
coined in the early 1980s
the term “serial killer” was only ~
creation & transformation: money / verb
coin (side of a coin)
two sides of the same coin
obesity and hunger are ~ (nutrition)
affluence and poverty should not be ~
relationship: money
coin (double-sided coin)
double-sided coin
it’s a ~ (trust can help or hurt you)
relationship: money
cold (feeling)
cold and hard
administrators can seem ~ (high school)
cold and impersonal
the big city can be ~
cold and calculating
she is ~
emotionally cold
I’m pretty much ~ (a marine)
feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
character & personality: temperature
cold (in the cold)
left out in the cold
the West will be ~ (by Russian diplomacy)
Inclusion & exclusion: temperature
cold (cold case, etc.)
cold case
~s can rip open the wounds of the past
gone cold
his trail had ~ (crime)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: temperature
activity: temperature
cold feet
cold feet
the Saudi leaders were getting ~
she got ~ (bride-to-be who disappeared)
cold feet about testifying
he was getting ~
getting cold feet
he was ~ about testifying
eagerness & reluctance: foot / temperature
coldhearted (adjective)
coldhearted person
she is a ~
coldhearted or cowardly
their decision was not ~ (climbers)

heart: temperature
empathy & lack of empathy: heart / temperature
feeling, emotion & effect: heart / temperature

coldly
coldly dismissed
she was ~ by the all-male institutions (explorer)
watched coldly
diplomats ~ as the family was dragged away

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
empathy & lack of empathy: temperature
cold shoulder
cold shoulder from members
I received the ~
received the cold shoulder
I ~ from the members of the group
gave the cold shoulder to the Russians
Georgia let the US help and ~

+ Some say this refers to offering a visitor a cold shoulder of meat, as opposed to a more hospitable hot meal. This must have been before the invention of the microwave.

acceptance & rejection: temperature
cold war
tech cold war
this ~ matters (US vs. Huawei and 5G network)

conflict: allusion / history / temperature
collapse (noun)
collapse
the system will reform itself or face its own ~
collapse of the (oil) boom
but with the ~
collapse of communism
since the ~ in 1991
collapse of the (cod) fishery
the ~
collapse of the (Iraqi) government
the situation could lead to the ~
collapse of (stock) prices
with the ~ (Silicon Valley)
collapse of talks
the ~ between…(two companies)
collapse of Taliban rule
since the ~ (Afghanistan)
collapse in their self-esteem
men who experienced a near ~ (financial crisis)

company’s collapse
an internal probe into the ~ shows…

colony collapse (m)
a new bee problem, called ~ disorder (honeybees)

price collapse
because of the ~ of commodities (sub-Saharan Africa)
catastrophic collapse
secrecy can make a system prone to ~

economic collapse
engulfed Russia (following fall of communism)

prone to (catastrophic) collapse
secrecy can make a system ~

on the brink of collapse
the government is ~ (Northern Ireland)
on the edge of collapse
the air travel network teeters ~ (Unfriendly Skies)
on the verge of collapse
the provincial government is ~ (Iraq)
probe into the (company’s) collapse
an internal ~ shows…
collapse engulfed Russia
economic ~ (following fall of communism)
faced collapse
the company asked for government intervention as it ~
lead to the collapse
the situation could ~ of the Iraqi government

failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / ruins
destruction: infrastructure / ruins
collide (verb)
collide with (ancient) traditions
modern mores often ~ (Africa)
generations collide
when ~ at work (boomers / Gen X)

conflict: crashes & collisions / verb
color (verb)
color the residents (of the Gulf Coast) unimpressed
~ by the government reaction to the disaster
colors his perspective
he is a wealthy small businessman, and that ~
colors his thoughts
his negativism ~
colors his views
his vegetarianism ~ of certain countries

perception, perspective & point of view: picture / verb
colored

colored by their relationship
countries’ views are ~ with Iran (on an issue)

perception, perspective & point of view: picture

colors (true colors)

show his true colors
he didn’t ~ until after the wedding (abusive)

identity & nature: flags & banners

colossal (adjective)

colossal (national) disaster
the situation is a ~ (nuclear-power-plant failure)
colossal failure
it was a ~
colossal misunderstanding
the message led to a ~
colossal problem
we have ~s

size: allusion / statue

colossus (noun)

colossus
Weir was a ~, what an inspiration (Scottish Rugby)

business colossus
the rise and fall of a ~ (Carlos Ghosn)

trading colossus
the East India Company was a ~

* A colossus was a gigantic statue. The Colossus of Rhodes was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.

size: allusion / statue
importance & significance: allusion / size / statue

comatose (adjective)

comatose
"~," the term for servers using energy but doing no work

activity: health & medicine
functioning: mechanism

comb (verb)

combed the area on hands and knees
police ~

combed the foothills in a (futile) search
they ~ for the girl

comb (former) battlegrounds for artifacts
hobbyists ~ (Civil War buffs)

combed the (city’s famed) canals for bombs
authorities ~ (Venice)

combing the roadsides for evidence

volunteers were ~ (murderers)

combed the slope for signs
Anker ~ of his missing friends (avalanche)

comb (Arabian) Desert for suspects
unmanned US planes ~

comb the seas for bluefin tuna
fishermen from New Zealand to Libya ~

comb through (decades-old) cases
detectives are beginning to ~, hoping...

comb through (international travel) records
analysts began to ~ (terrorism)

combed (abandoned) buildings
police ~ (for missing woman)

combed the school
the Jackson County Health Department ~ (rash)

combed the region
police ~

combed the countryside
volunteers ~, on A.T.V.’s and on horseback (for girl)

combed the foothills
they ~ in a futile search for the girl

searching & discovery: comb / hair / verb

combat (verb)

combat the disease
he ordered a broad mobilization to ~ (SARS / China)

combat (street) homelessness
it remains the principal tool to ~ (supportive housing)

combat boredom and tension
they play Monopoly to ~ (soldiers / Iraq)

tool to combat
it remains the principal ~ street homelessness (supportive housing)

conflict: military / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb

combustible

combustible (recent Carter) interview
perhaps the most ~ aired over the weekend

initiation: fire / temperature
speech: fire / temperature

come (future)

coming
the future is ~, whether we like it or not

come and gone
2001 has ~

future: direction / movement / verb
come (something can come along)

came along
   nobody saw a virus until the electron microscope ~
comes along
   just when things are improving, this new crisis ~
psychoanalysis came along
   until ~, the accepted antidote to hysteria was rest
Knott came along
   before ~, fishermen caught lobsters the same way…
development: direction / movement

come (come a long way)

come a long way
   we have ~ (a business)
   we have ~, but we have much further to go
   we have ~, but not far enough
come a long way in race relations
   we have ~, but we keep going backwards
come a long way since the 1990s
   Kosovo has ~
come a long way from its (humble) beginnings
   the company has ~
come a long way in 4 decades
   the sport has ~
progress & lack of progress: movement / journeys & trips

come (to come)

yet to come
   there are changes ~ (global warming)
   it does make you wonder what is ~ (politics)
sure to come
   change is ~
more (Inside Edition) to come
   there is ~
hearings are to come
   more ~
future to come
   they are waiting for the ~, but it’s already here
generations to come
   these issues will affect ~
things to come
   this is a sign of ~
future: direction / movement

come (see something coming)

saw it coming
   I never ~
   they never ~
   nobody ~ (boy arrested)

we were caught flatfooted, we never ~
see it coming
   he didn’t ~ (heart attack)
future: direction / movement / verb
consciousness & awareness: direction / verb

come (for a time to come)

for years to come
   the problem will occupy botanists ~
for decades to come
   he may last ~ (a leader)
for centuries to come
   shrinking coastlines will be the new normal ~
future: direction / movement

come (come out swinging)

came out swinging
   the president ~
conflict / speech: boxing
   accusation & criticism: boxing

come (come from)

comes from dishonesty
   nothing good ever ~
origin: ~
come back (verb)

come back stronger
   I’m going to ~ than ever
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / verb
resiliency: verb

comeback (noun)

made a comeback
   he made a ~
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction
resiliency: direction

come down on (verb)

came down (hard) on his critics
   President Trump ~
accusation & criticism: direction / verb

come forward (verb)

come forward
   she decided to ~, despite the publicity (accusation)
appearance & disappearance: direction / verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / verb
come out (verb)
come out
  people ask why I’m ~ now (male on male historical abuse)
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / verb
come out (against something)
come out against anti-Semitic tropes
  we felt the need to ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: movement / verb
come up (appearance)
come up
  that’s an option that has ~
appearance & disappearance: direction / verb
come up with (discovery)
come up with nothing
  they have dug through and ~ (investigation)
searching & discovery: direction / ground, terrain & land / verb
come up on
come up on a new trial
  he is ~
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement
  future: direction / movement
coming (in the coming months, etc.)
in the coming months
  a series of reports is expected ~
in the coming years
  such events will become more frequent ~ (droughts)
future: direction / movement
coming (coming out)
coming out party
  this was his ~ to set up big money (Brit boxer fights in US)
experience: love, courtship & marriage / sex
command (deserve and get)
commands (an annual) rent
  the space ~ of $800 a square foot
commands respect
  she ~ (a veteran teacher)
commands the highest prices
  sweet crude ~… (oil)
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: speech
common denominator
common denominator

music is a ~ (vs. class, race, ability)
division & connection: number
commodity
questionable commodity
  for all his talent, he is still is a ~ (athlete)
scarcest commodities
  time is one of your ~ (owners of small businesses)
treat virginity as a commodity
  men should not ~ (China)
worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture
  product: farming & agriculture
companion
companion of time
  change is a constant ~ (said by a diplomat)
constant companion
  exhaustion is a ~ (work at nursing homes)
cruelty is their ~ (untouchables / India)
turns a poem into a companion
  memorization ~ (Billy Collins)
relationship: person
compass (within / outside the compass)
within the compass of that subpoena
  if there are papers that are ~
extent & scope: tools & technology
compass (moral compass)
moral compass
  a friend with a stronger ~ (told police of crime)
  so many are intelligent, with decent ~s (teens / dating)
  ~ can point you in the right direction
lacks a moral compass
  he is a menacing creature who ~ (a dictator)
lose their moral compass
  they are so mired in bad fortune they ~
behavior / direction: tools & technology
concoct (verb)
concocted an (escape) plan
  she ~ (to get away from a cult)
  ♦ Originally, this meant to cook together. As such, it is congruent with cook up.
creation & transformation: cooking / mixture / verb
concrete
concrete
  their thinking becomes less ~ and more abstract (kids)
concrete evidence
  for now, there was no ~ linking... (terror attack)
concrete examples
some ~ will illustrate this point

concrete information
he didn't give any ~ about the crime

concrete offer
I haven't gotten any ~s (job search)

concrete question
unable to answer ~s about…

concrete results
we need ~ from this conference (U.N.)

substance & lack of substance: materials & substances

conduit (noun)

conduits for contributors
Visa and PayPal refused to be ~ (to WikiLeaks)

conduit for refugees from Tibet
the passes into Sikkim became a ~ after 1950

conduit between publishers and consumers
originally the company was to be a ~ (Amazon)

communications conduit
he acted as a ~ (terrorist messenger)

media conduit
the group acts as a ~ for the ALF

vital conduit
the Gulf of Aden is a ~ for Middle East oil

route: water

confetti
turned the insulation into confetti
the machine-gun fire ~ (an aircraft)

resemblance: waste

conflagration
financial conflagration
proprietary trading added tinder to the ~ (2008)

avoid a conflagration
the US and the UN are seeking to ~ (in Sudan)

ignite a (larger) conflagration
Somalia could ~ across the Horn of Africa

provoked a conflagration
nationalists ~

amount & effect: fire

confluence
confluence of agendas
a "~" between Algeria and the West (terrorism)

confluence of (natural and manmade) disasters
the ~ (war, drought, etc.)

confluence of events
the odd ~ (volcanoes erupt on same day)
the ~ occurring in Iran is very sad (Hillary Clinton)
a ~ brought the Web site down
where is this ~ taking all of us (news-show host)

confluence of (several) factors
a ~ is likely responsible (falling crime rates)

odd confluence
the ~ of events (volcanoes erupt on same day)

division & connection: river

conga line
conga line of storms
a ~ is heading towards the US

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement

connect (verb)
connect
two lonely teens meet and try to ~

social interaction: tools & technology / verb

division & connection: tools & technology / verb

conquer (verb)
conquered the world
he ~ of American entertainment (Marvin Hamlisch)

success & failure: military / verb

conscious (aware)
conscious of the value
people are more ~ of relationships (post-9/11)

conscious of what
I've always been very ~ I eat, how much I exercise

conscious (and unconscious) beliefs
their ~ (stereotyping)

conscious decision
some people make a ~ to go missing, start a new life

conscious and unconscious (m)
their ~ beliefs (stereotyping)

budget-conscious (m)
~ parents

celebrity-conscious (m)
Los Angeles is America's most ~ town

cost-conscious (m)
a ~ chef

ecology-conscious (m)
an ~ audience

fashion-conscious (m)
~ customers

party-conscious (m)
his move could alienate ~ Democrats (politics)
safety conscious
  kayakers are usually ~
safety-conscious
  NASCAR is extremely ~ (auto racing)
security-conscious
  this year’s Academy Awards will be the most ~ ever
status-conscious (m)
  ~ people are stuck up
style conscious
  Gabriella was ~ and had expensive taste
technology-conscious (m)
  ~ San Francisco
weight-conscious (m)
  data on nearly 500 ~ women
earthquake-conscious (m)
  Japanese are the most ~ people
environmentally conscious (m)
  an ~ business
  in an ~ world
ethically conscious (m)
  ethically conscious investors
consciousness & awareness: health & medicine
constellation (noun)
  constellation of symptoms
    the ~ at the end of life
    he had another patient with the same bizarre ~ (AIDS)
configuration: astronomy
  group, set & collection: astronomy
consume (emotions)
  consumed him
    guilt and shame ~ (financial infidelity)
feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb
consume (consumption)
  consuming the media
    people are ~ differently nowadays
consumption: food & drink / verb
consume (destroy)
  consumed 4 Turkish divisions
    Yemen ~ in the 19th century
destruction: food & drink / predation / verb
consumed
  consumed by envy
    I was not ~, but it was there (a boy)
  consumed by thoughts of revenge
    he was ~
feeling, emotion & effect: fire
contagion (noun)
  contagion
    if the ~ spreads widely… (failing economies of states)
corruption: health & medicine
contagious (adjective)
  contagious
    the girl’s lack of ambition was ~ (to high-school boy)
    feelings are ~
      she had a laugh that was ~
transmission: health & medicine
contaminate (verb)
  contaminated the inquiry
    the media ~ (Amanda Knox)
  contaminate the interrogation
    interrogators can ~ by providing details
corruption: materials & substances
contamination
  contamination
    ~ is the primary factor in wrongful convictions
corruption: materials & substances
contaminated
  contaminated
    confessions are ~ when interrogators supply details
corruption: materials & substances
contest (noun)
  contest of measure and countermeasure
    it’s a grim ~ (IEDs / Iraq)
  popularity contest
    he was bound to lose the ~
grim contest
    it’s a ~ of measure and countermeasure (IEDs / Iraq)
  lose the (popularity) contest
    he was bound to ~
competition: sports & games
contour (noun)
  contours of it
    we know some basic ~ now (from the Muller Report)
control (in control)
in control of his emotions
he is not ~
more in control
I always enjoy leading and it helped me feel ~ (kayaking)
very much in control
she felt ~ (a positive job interview)
felt (very much) in control
she ~ (a positive job interview)

feeling, emotion & effect: control & lack of control

control (out of control)
out of control
the $100 billion timber industry is ~
the perception that juvenile violence is ~
he's ~ (behavior)
our wireless bills are ~
out-of-control courts
out-of-control drivers
laws against ~
out-of-control person
an ~
out-of-control quality
a wild, nervy ~ to his writing
out-of-control rebel
the angry, ~
out-of-control shopper
an ~
out-of-control (urban) sprawl
~ (Austin)
out-of-control spending
blossom out of control
the consequences can ~ (problems on 767 jetliner)
feel out of control
badly designed intelligent technology makes us ~
getting out of control
things were ~
the situation seems to be ~
got out of control
they were away and the kids ~
spinning out of control
digital downloading and copying is ~
his personal life seemed to be ~
Nairobi is ~ (crime)
spinning (faster) out of control
Hernandez was ~
spun out of control

the argument ~
spiraled out of control
Rye's junior prom ~ (drunk teens)
spiraling out of control
in danger of ~
spiral out of control
medical expenses can often ~
his life seemed to ~ (drug addict)

restraint & lack of restraint: control & lack of control

control (under control)
under control
everything is ~
I've got everything ~

restraint & lack of restraint: control & lack of control

control (behavior)
under control
he can get his erratic behavior ~
get his (erratic) behavior under control
he can ~

behavior: control & lack of control

control (out of one's control)
out of your control
some things are ~

fate, fortune & chance: control & lack of control

convert (person)
out for converts
he is a culinary evangelist ~ (chef)
won many converts
he ~ to his ideas

message: person / religion
person: religion

convulse (verb)
convulsed in a spasm
for 3 minutes the casino ~ of violence (biker riot)
convulsing with change
Ethiopia has been ~
convulsed India
globalism and capitalism has ~
convulsed the country
waves of anti-foreign sentiment ~ (China)

affliction: health & medicine / verb

convulsed
convulsed by (ethnic) strife
the area is ~
affliction: health & medicine

convulsion (noun)
financial convulsion
  a breakup of the EU would cause a ~

affliction: health & medicine
cooked up
cooked up at Eglin Air Force Base
  the planes were armed by a new bomb ~

creation & transformation: cooking
cook up (verb)
cooked up a plan
  he and Tomaz ~ to climb Nuptse by a new route
cooked up the story
  they ~ to get the reward (murder case)

creation & transformation: cooking / verb
cool (cool off / activity)
cool off
  his career began to ~ (a singer)
activity: temperature / verb
cool (cool off, etc.)
cooled off
  he regrets what he did now that he has ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb
cool (feeling)
maintain their cool
  they need to ~ (a team)
feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
coolheaded (adjective)
coolheaded killer
  he is a ~

feeling, emotion & effect: head / temperature
coolly (adverb)
coolly
  she looked at me ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
core (basis)
at its core
  ~, this issue all boils down to money

bases: center & periphery

corkscrew (verb)
corkscrewed above the airport
  he took off and ~ until we reached 8,000 feet (plane)
direction: shape / verb
movement: shape / verb
corkscrew (shape)
corkscrew ascents and descents
  ~ to evade fire (Iraqi Airways)
direction: shape
corner (around the corner)
victory is around the corner
  officials insist ~ (war)

spring is around the corner
just around the corner
  planting season is ~
  Christmas is ~
future / proximity: corner
corner (in remote corners, etc.)
from all corners of the (political) spectrum
  he received criticism ~
in the corners of the internet
  the theories began ~ and made it into mainstream news
in the dark corners of cyberspace
  ~ (child pornography)
in some corners of the humanities
  there is resistance to such analysis ~
in the (more) paranoid corners of the Internet
  he posted messages ~
in many corners of the West
  uranium mining boomed ~
in some corners of the book world
  there is opposition ~

area: center & periphery / corner
corner (other)
shines light into some of the darkest corners
  the book ~ of MI5
ventured into remote corners
  he ~ (a photographer)
area: center & periphery / corner
corner (turn the corner)
turned the corner
  we have ~ (economic upturn after downturn)
  this month he ~, and made a profit (businessman)
  so has America finally ~ (economic downturn)
turn the corner on unemployment
we are beginning to ~
beginning to turn the corner
we are ~ on unemployment

**progress & lack of progress: corner / verb**
**development: corner / verb**

**corner (situation)**

tightest corner
United somehow got out of the ~ in Paris (soccer win)
backed ourselves into a corner
we've sort of ~ (war strategy)
boxed himself into a corner
he has ~ on tax increases (a politician)
painted himself into a corner
he has ~ (world leader)

**alternatives & choices: boxing / corner**

**situations: corner**

**corner (in one's corner)**
in my corner
she supports me, she's ~

**allegiance, support & betrayal: boxing / corner**

**corner (cut corners)**
cut corners
oil companies ~ to maximize profits

difficulty, easiness & effort: corner / journeys & trips

**cornerstone (noun)**
cornerstone of the collection
the painting will be the ~ (a new museum)
cornerstones of the economy
blue-chip companies, once considered ~... (recession)
cornerstone of identity
Egyptians increasingly emphasize Islam as the ~
cornerstone of (US) policy
Egypt is the ~ in the Middle East
cornerstones of terrorism
unemployment creates one of the ~ (Prince Talal)
cornerstone of (addiction) treatment
Alcoholics Anonymous remains the ~ in the US
cornerstone of Roma life
child marriage is a ~ (tradition)
cornerstone of academic culture
peer review is a ~ (publishing)
cornerstone of the scientific method
replication is a ~
emphasize Islam as the cornerstone

**Egyptians increasingly ~ of identity**

**bases: infrastructure**

**corridor (route)**
drug corridor
Interstate 44 is a ~ (Missouri)
migration corridor
the Bering land bridge served as a ~ for people
travel corridor
the region is a ~ for illegal immigrants
wildlife corridor
nature preserves provide a ~ for birds and animals
green corridor
in places the ~ is only 50 feet wide (along river)
strategic corridor
Georgia is a ~ for Western oil companies
tiny corridor
oil exports are squeezed through this ~ (Strait of Hormuz)

**I-95 corridor**
heroin travels down the ~ to secondary markets (from NYC)

**route: infrastructure**

**corridor (area)**

high-technology corridor
the metro services Northern Virginia's ~
commercial corridor
the Metro revitalized the sagging ~ between...
31-mile corridor
deforestation occurs in a ~ on either side of roads

**area: shape**

**corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.)**

Siliguri Corridor
the ~ is also known as the Chickens Neck
National Heritage Corridor
the Blackstone River Valley ~
Wakhan Corridor
the ~ (Afghanistan)

**proper name: infrastructure**

**corridor (corridors of power)**

**corridors of power**
ordinary Americans are kept out of the ~ (politics)
in the corridors of power
the religious right is flexing its muscles ~
access to the corridors of power
the reporter has unrivaled ~ (Bob Woodward)
gain admittance to the corridors of power
power: infrastructure

corrosive (adjective)
corrosive for democracy
  rich contributors are ~ (money)
corrosive effect
corruption was perhaps the most ~ of communism
corrosive role
corruption was perhaps the most ~ of communism
the ~ of money in politics (rich special-interest groups)
feeling, emotion & effect: chemistry / materials & substances / sensation
corrupting
corrupting force
corruption was perhaps the most ~ of communism
the tabloids portrayed her as a ~
corruption: health & medicine
corruption (noun)
corruption: health & medicine
corruptions (adjective)
corruptions (adjective)
corruption: health & medicine
corruption: health & medicine
coruscating (adjective)
coruscating observations
coruscating observations
he had room to make his ~ (TV)
superlative: light & dark
cost (verb)
cost them
cost him his job
cost you nothing
  it ~ but your time (a free Internet program)
costing teachers their jobs
  budget cuts are now ~
cost him his life
cost the climbers a shot
  helping the other group ~ at the summit
cost him his (boxing) title
  his refusal to serve ~ (Muhammad Ali)
cost Unsoeld his toes
  that night ~ (high-altitude bivouac)
cost drivers 15 minutes
  construction delays on I-15 ~
cost the state thousands of jobs
  his economic policies have ~
cost you an arm and a leg
  this vacation getaway won’t ~
cost the team big time
  the mistake ~
cost the lives
  the civil war ~ of 100,000 Maya Indians (Guatemala)
cost & benefit: money / verb
cost (at a cost)
at the cost of his life
  Sfc. Ashley's bravery ~ was in the highest traditions of...
at enormous cost
gold is wrung from the earth ~
even at the cost
  they are desperate to flee their country ~ of their lives
cost & benefit money
cost (at all costs)
protect (passengers) at all costs
  air marshals must ~
cost & benefit money
cost (other)
costs of Vietnam
  the ~ remain with us (troubled vets, sons, etc.)
cost of his life
  absorbing the grenade blast at the ~
cost of war
  let us not forget the terrible ~
costs of war
  the ~ and the price of peace (soldiers)
costs of gambling
  the hidden ~ (divorce, etc.)
cost to having
  there is a ~ an overload of choice
  war's (tragic environmental) cost
hidden costs
  the ~ of gambling (divorce, etc.)
environmental cost
  war has not only a human cost, but a tragic ~ as well
gold is wrung from the earth at enormous ~
human cost
  war has not only a ~, but a tragic environmental cost
political cost
  both leaders are paying a ~ at home for… (foreign policy)
tragic (environmental) cost
cost & benefit: money
costly (adjective)
costly
you have laid so ~ a sacrifice… (Lincoln)
politically costly
it’s ~ to criticize Jews (US elections)
cost & benefit: money
cough up (verb)
cough up more money
the US wants its allies to ~ (for world defense)
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bodily process
countdown (noun)
countdown
the ~ starts now (ad for big game in future)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: number
counterattack (noun)
counterattack
the Embassy began a ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb
counterbalance (verb)
counterbalance his dependence
he is trying to ~ on the US by dealing with China
counterbalance Western media
Al Jazeera was founded to ~
amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / scale / verb
counterbalance (noun)
counterbalance to industry
the FDA is the ~
counterbalance to the presidency
the Supreme Court is a ~
counterbalance to the US press
Al Jazeera is an excellent ~
counterbalance to the liberal Western order
he wants to establish Russia as a ~ (Putin)
counterbalance to corporate power
unions are a ~
generational counterbalance
the mothers of nominees provided ~ (Academy Awards)
liberal counterbalance
she will serve as a ~ to the conservative wing
amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / scale
equilibrium & stability: scale
coup (power)
coup
I was fired, it was basically a coup by… (political job)
boardroom coup
the son deposed his father in a ~ (Budweiser beer)
dismissal, removal & resignation / power: military
coup (achievement)
diplomatic coup
the conference was a ~ for Iran
great coup
workers hailed the decision as a ~ (unionization)
achievement, recognition & praise / success & failure: military
coup de grace (deathblow)
coup de grace
facing down Biden was the ~ on her evening (politics)
courtroom coup de grace
his political adversaries were hoping for a ~ (report)
destruction: death & life / violence / weapon
fate, fortune & chance: death & life / violence / weapon
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / violence / weapon
coupled
coupled with love
high expectations ~ is a gift (child-rearing)
division & connection: tools & technology
course (on a collision course)
on a collision course
the two countries are ~
on a collision course
people and the natural world are ~
on a collision course with his boss
he was ~ (Navy top brass)
on a collision course with the clerics
the royal family is ~ (Saudi)
on a collision course for the finals
they are ~ (two teams)
conflict: crashes & collisions
course (change course, etc.)
change course
he didn’t hesitate to ~ (a politician)
we are skeptical that Iran will ~ (diplomacy)
charted a new course
he has ~ and tacked to the center (politician)
direction: journeys & trips / verb
course (reverse course)
reversed course
Iran ~ and reopened its nuclear labs
the President ~ and grounded the plane (Boeing problem)
reversal: direction / journeys & trips / verb
course (development)
course of the conflict
we cannot predict the length or the ~ (military)
course of the disease
we can sometimes slow the ~
the challenge is to identify patients earlier in the ~
course of HIV infection
the ~ is characterized primarily by latency
course of the war
during the ~ (Gulf War)
re lent less course
as the epidemic follows its ~ (AIDS)
length or the course
we cannot predict the ~ of the conflict (military)
follow its (re lent less) course
if we sit back and let the epidemic ~…
run its course
the common cold will ~ within seven days
slow the course
we can sometimes ~ of the disease
development: journeys & trips
course (course of action, etc.)
course of action
we thought the best ~ was to…
I could think of no other ~
is this the right ~ (government policy)
similar course
see if other schools should follow a ~ (sex ed)
safest and wisest course
the ~ to follow (alcohol and pregnancy)
follow a (similar) course
see if other schools should ~ (same-sex classes)
took the (politically risky) course
he ~ of prosecuting a member of government
direction: journeys & trips
course (direction)
course correction
we can't move forward without a ~ (bribery scandal)
fresh course
helping convicted felons chart a ~
changed the course
their testimony has ~ of the investigation (police)
chart a (fresh) course
helping convicted felons ~
corrected course
the agency has ~ on asylum detentions
stay the course
he vowed to ~ (general leading war)
stays the course
once he makes up his mind, he ~ (businessman)
direction: journeys & trips
course (course of justice, etc.)
course of justice
he was charged with perverting the ~
take its course
the law must ~
operation: journeys & trips
court (verb)
courting Hispanics with (Spanish) advertising
the company is ~
courting danger with his rhetoric
he is ~ (racist stereotypes)
courting rebellion by pushing ahead
he is ~ with his plan (political party)
courted adventure
when she was young she ~ (hitchhiking, etc.)
court (resource-rich) countries
China, India ~ like Nigeria and Kazakhstan
courted death
he ~ with his use of drugs and wild lifestyle
courting (economic) disaster
we are ~
courting its favor
both Democrats and Republicans are ~ (N.R.A.)
courting veterans
for-profit colleges are ~
courting (younger) voters
the party is ~ (politics)
courted and won
he ~ popular acceptance (a musician)
actively courted
they ~ publicity (two feuding pop stars)
aggressively courting
he has been ~ endorsements (running for office)
assiduously courted
  he has ~ mainstream support (a politician)
feverishly courting
  she has been ~ black voters
公开地追求
  the president has been ~ him (a politician)
quietly courting
  he has been ~ contributors (for a political run)

pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / verb
attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / verb
court (in the court)
in the world court
  they have been convicted ~ of public opinion (doping)
in the (world) court of public opinion
  they have been convicted ~ athletes / doping)
tried in the court
  he has been ~ of public opinion

judgment: justice
court (other)
  court of public opinion
  the ~ condemned him

judgment: justice
courthouse (Devil's Courthouse, etc.)
Devil's Courthouse
  the first person to climb ~ (a rock outcropping)
Majlis al Jinn
  the ~ (the assembly of the devils, a cave in Oman)

proper name: infrastructure
courtship (noun)
courtship of Africa
  both India and China have stepped up their ~
stepped up their courtship
  both India and China have ~ of Africa
pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage
attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage
cousin (person)
cousin
  open-wheel racing and its stock-car ~, NASCAR
cousin of estrogen
  BPA is a chemical ~
cousin to smallpox
  Vaccinia, a ~ which can cause illness
dictionary's cousin
  it's like the ~ (the thesaurus)

chemical cousin
  BPA is a ~ of estrogen
closest cousin
  denial is associated with its ~, addiction
ugly cousin
  sarcasm is anger's ~
relationship: family / person
person: family
cover (under cover)
under cover of darkness
  the attacks began ~
  the convoys move both in daylight and ~ (Iraq)
living under cover
  Al-Khilewi, who was granted asylum, is now ~
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth
covered up
covered up
  his pedophilia had been known for years but ~ (priest)
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth
cover up (verb)
cover up his crime
  he smashed his own head and face to ~
covers up violations
  Saudi Arabia ~ of human rights abuses
covered up (security) shortcomings
  the FAA ~ for years (airports)
covered up (widespread) doping
  officials ~ by... (sports)
cover up the killing
  their attempts to ~ were unsuccessful (Saudi police)
covered up for the (cheerleader) coach
  cops allege the school's principal ~
covered up for him
  when they finally did land in court, she ~ (abuse)
cover up for "honor killings"
  deaths are ascribed to suicide in order to ~
covered it up
  the Army ~ (contamination from weapons depot)
tried to cover up
  they ~ what they had done... (tribal vengeance)
  he also ~ the crime... (tribal vengeance)
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / verb
cover-up (suppress)
cover-up
  a ~ to conceal the affair
cover-ups and corruption
   investigations marred by official ~ (Mexico)
government coverup
   charges of a ~
failed cover-up
   prison terms for colluding in the ~ (mine disaster / China)
politically motivated cover-up
   a ~
official coverups
   investigations marred by ~ and corruption (Mexico)
allegations of a cover-up
   officials will investigate the ~ (China / storm)
charges of a (government) coverup
   they have been ~
mystery and cover-up
   dealing with the UFO ~
denied a cover-up
   local officials have ~ (China / no typhoon warning)
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth
cow (cash cow)
cash cow for universities
   online education is a ~
cash cow for publishers
   textbooks are the last ~
cash cow of (American) ballet
   the Nutcracker is the ~
Boeing's (long term) cash cow
   ~ is the 737
company's cash cow
   the drug is the ~
Microsoft's cash cow
   Windows is ~
   ♦ Asa W. Morris in California owned the legendary Tilly Alcartra, known as "the Queen of Holsteins" for her milk production. It is possible that she was a victim of an anthrax scare, destroyed and buried in a trench to prevent the spread of anthrax.
worth & lack of worth: animal / cows & cattle
cowboy (person)
Cocaine Cowboys
   the cartels' ~ turned the market (1970s Florida)
character & personality: history
behavior: history
control & lack of control: history
cower (verb)
cower in the face
   universities ~ of NCAA abuses (sports)
dominance & submission: standing, sitting & lying / verb
coy (adjective)
coy about the idea
   China has been ~ (of an East Asia Community)
coy about the year
   she is ~ of her birth
coy on the subject
   he has been ~ (about retiring)
a bit coy
   he's a ~ about how much he can raise (a politician)
surprisingly coy
   politicians can be ~ about asking direct questions
being coy
   she is not ~ about wanting to win (a politician)
playing coy
   many possible candidates are ~ about running
remaining coy
   most potential candidates are ~ for now (presidency)
eagerness & reluctance: love, courtship & marriage
coyote (predation)
gangs of "coyotes"
   ~ smuggle people in from Mexico
predation: animal
cozy (adjective)
cozy relationship
   he has a ~ with the prince
feeling, emotion & effect: proximity / temperature
   relationship: proximity / temperature

crack (attempt)
crack at it
   we'll take another ~
attempt: sound

crack (verb)
cracked
   their relationship ~ under the pressure
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb

crack (verb / emotion)
cracked
   I ~ under the pressure
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances / verb


crack (division)
crack
   the ~s could widen into a chasm (politics)
crack in the coalition
   the Arab League statement is a worrying ~ (Libya)

cracks in (military) solidarity
   there have been few ~ (Venezuela political unrest)

division & connection: ground, terrain & land

crack (flaw)

cracks
   the ~ were beginning to show (troubled corporation)

flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

crack (fall through the cracks, etc.)
dropped through the cracks
   Cho had ~ of the university bureaucracy

dropped through the cracks
   Cho had ~ of the university bureaucracy

fell through the cracks
   she ~ (foster system)

slipped through the cracks
   he has ~ (terrorist)
   many sex sites have ~ (Internet)

failure, accident & impairment: ground, terrain & land / verb

crackdown (noun)
crackdown on corruption
   the government has launched a ~
crackdown against (unlicensed) Internet Cafes
   authorities kicked off a nationwide ~ (China)

draconian crackdown
   he has presided over the most ~ on leaks in US history

correction & motivation: violence / whip
punishment & recrimination: violence / whip
oppression: violence / whip


crack down (verb)
cracked down on the opposition
   the government has ~
cracking down on immigration
   they are ~
cracking down on both men
   judges are ~ (investigation)

correction & motivation: verb / violence / whip
punishment & recrimination: verb / violence / whip
oppression: verb / violence / whip
violence: verb / whip


cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)
kill any (climate-change) bill in its cradle
   he will ~ if he has a chance (legislator)

strangled in its cradle
   Bolshevism must be ~ (Winston Churchill on Russia)

strangle the experiment in its cradle
   if nobody watches, it will ~ (TV show)

destruction: baby

cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
cradle of Islam
   Saudi Arabia is the ~
cradle of civilization
   the Caucasus was a ~
cradle of (ancient) civilizations
   the plateau is a ~
cradle of (Chinese) civilization
   Hubei and Henan provinces, the ~
   the Yellow River is known as the ~
cradle of (Serbian) civilization
   Serbs claim Kosovo as the ~
cradle of independence
   Dolores Hidalgo is known as the ~ (Mexico)

origin: epithet / birth


cradle (symbol)
cradle-to-grave work force
   the ~
   from the cradle to the grave
   she gave advice on problems people face ~

death & life: sign, signal, symbol

crank up (verb)
cranked up the pressure
   on the manager
   a defeat would have ~ (soccer)

increase & decrease: mechanism / verb


crash (crash down)
crashing down
   she was the youngest female billionaire before it all came ~

destruction: crashes & collisions / direction / infrastructure / ruins / verb


crash (crash course, etc.)
crash course
   an eight-day ~
   he took a ~ in genetics

crash diet
   ~s can be dangerous

haste: crashes & collisions


crash (population crash, etc.)
crash and bleed-out
what they call the ~ (Ebola virus)

computer crash
the data disappeared after 2 ~s (voting records)

population crash
a ~, part of the natural cycle;
likely to cause an unprecedented ~

stock-market crash
the ~

ecological crash
you’re going to see an ~ (marmots / Mongolia)

failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions
functioning: crashes & collisions

**crash-land (verb)**
crash-landed on (hard) facts
his theory ~ and common sense

**crater (verb)**
cratered
state power ~ for the democrats

decline: direction / plane / verb

**crave (verb)**
craved fame
he ~
craved it
the media wanted it, fans ~ (a boxing matchup)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: addiction / food & drink / health & medicine / verb
enthusiasm: addiction / food & drink / health & medicine / verb

crawl (activity)
crawling with reporters
our hotel was ~

activity: animal / insect / verb

**crawl (speed)**
crawl
boredom makes time ~, interest makes it race

minutes crawled by
the ~

speed: walking, running & jumping
time: movement / verb

**crawl (noun)**
crawl to (Aug.12) peak
Perseid meteor shower begins slow ~
crawl phase

having accomplished the ~ (military training)
crawl, walk, run (m)
instruction should follow a ~ sequence (military)

news crawl
run a ~ across the bottom of the screen (TV)

slow crawl
Perseid meteor shower begins ~ to Aug. 12 peak

slowed to a crawl
the market for initial public offerings has ~
the storm’s movement has ~

slow to a crawl
the ambush was set where the convoy had to ~

speed: walking, running & jumping

**craze**
craze of the 80's
the cocaine ~
craze in the 1920s
tree sitting was a national ~, like phone-booth stuffing
craze in Japan
platform shoes are the ~
craze in clothes, music, illegal drugs
the latest teen ~
craze for (sudoku) puzzles
the worldwide ~
cocaine craze
the ~ of the 80's

fitness craze
cash in on the ~
teen craze
the latest ~ in clothes, music, illegal drugs
cowboy craze
the '80s ~ (urban cowboys)

snake meat craze
snakes are disappearing due to the nationwide ~ (China)
tail-fin craze
the designer behind the ~ (cars)

extreme sports craze
couraged by the ~

Internet craze
the ~ is causing distortions

worldwide craze
the ~ for sudoku puzzles

skateboarding craze
a few years later the ~ was over

current craze
the ~ is tread and shred (exercising)
international craze
its triumph as a full-blown ~ in the 60's (folk music)

latest craze
the ~ is… (sports)

national craze
tree sitting was a ~ in the 1920s, like phone booth stuffing

new craze
platform shoes are the ~ in Japan

behavior / enthusiasm: mental health
crazed
crazed fan
~s scoured the Web ("Blair Witch Project")
cricket-crazed (m)
the ~ countries of the former British Empire
media-crazed (m)
the ~ public…
sex-crazed
college students are often portrayed as ~
soccer-crazed (m)
the World Cup is a huge even in ~ countries
seafood-crazed (m)
in this ~ country, tuna is king (Japan)

behavior / enthusiasm: mental health
crazy (behavior)
crazy
you must be ~…
are you ~ or what…
crazy to do
you have to be a little ~ it (ice canoeing / Quebec City)
crazy boss
coping with a ~
crazy and hostile
Boston Celtic fans are ~ (NBA)
crazy and wild
it was ~ (wedding in non-traditional location)
a little crazy
you have to be ~ to do it (ice canoeing / Quebec City)
too crazy
his ideas were rejected as ~ by the grant process (a scientist)
stupid, crazy or not cool
"gay" as an adjective to describe anybody ~
wild and crazy
he was ~, young and dumb
wild and crazy (m)
the NFL has its ~ side

act crazy
scream and run or ~ (date-rape-prevention strategies)
acting crazy
you got so many kids out here ~ (South LA gangs)
drive me crazy
I need a lover who won't ~
drive you crazy
I like to tease you and ~
driving me crazy
the itch is ~
rejected as (too) crazy
his ideas were ~ by the grant process (a scientist)

behavior: mental health
crazy (enthusiasm)
crazy about that dog
she's ~ (a woman and a pit bull)
crazy about her
I'm ~ (man of his female friend)
Internet-crazy (m)
~ Americans
boy crazy
girls may become "~" (preadolescence)
goes crazy
while the rest of the world ~ over the World Cup

behavior / enthusiasm: mental health
cream (superlative)
cream of (Irish country music) artists
Daniel O'Donnell introduces the ~
France’s intellectual crème de la crème
~ have attended the elite Ecole Nationale d’Adminstration

superlative: food & drink
creature (creature of habit, etc.)
creature of his era
he was a ~ (Frank Kameny)
creature of habit
he is a ~
creatures of the theater
he was a ~ (George M. Cohan)
creatures of their own time
like Luther, they were ~ (slavery and Southern Baptists)
former creature
a ~ of Fleet Street… (a new TV interviewer)

character & personality: animal / creature
taxonomy & classification: animal / creature
identity & nature: animal / creature

creature comfort

creature comforts
our campsite and all its ~ (Mt. Everest guided trip)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: creature

creep (mission creep, etc.)

mission creep
the effort has suffered from ~ (military)
"torture creep"
interrogators get sneaky, thus ~

Increase & decrease: movement
constraint & lack of constraint: movement
starting, going, continuing & ending: movement

crescendo (noun)
crescendo of anti-abortion legislation
the Alabama law tops a ~

amount & effect: music / sound

cricket
clackers or "crickets"
whistles, bells, sirens, ~, and horns (military signals)

sound: insect

crime (judgment)

no crime
it's ~ to be selfish sometimes
it's ~ for those who were right to feel a little superior

fashion crime
wearing socks with sandals is considered a ~

Judgment: Justice

cripple (verb)
crippled the city
23 inches of snow ~
crippled our society
unemployment is ~

functioning: health & medicine / verb

crippled

crippled by (economic and political) troubles
Zimbabwe remains ~
crippled reactor
the damage at the ~ is worse than thought
remains crippled
Zimbabwe ~ by economic and political troubles

functioning: health & medicine

crippling
crippling blow
his death dealt a ~ to his network (a terrorist)
crippling fear
~ of loss and disaster (children of divorce)
crippling poverty
the ~ among mountain people (United Nations)
crippling, paralyzing (m)
I do not favor ~ sanctions (Russian President)

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine

crooked
crooked
the election was ~
crooked books
crooked auditors certified the ~
crooked business
insurance is a ~
crooked cops
the force must root out ~
crooked dealer
~s take advantage of young soldiers (autos)
crooked employers
~ pay less, and make workers work more
crooked governors
two ~ in a row have been sent to prison (Illinois)
crooked politician
~s steal our money
straight and crooked (m)
he knew the difference between ~ work (a farmer)

character & personality: direction
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: direction

crop (noun)
crop of (American) offspring
the first postwar ~

product: farming & agriculture

crop up (verb)
cropped up in its Proton rockets
the Russians must fix problems that have ~

problem cropped up
the ~ just hours before liftoff (space shuttle)

questions crop up
legal ~, too
continually crop up
look for keywords that ~ in ads
appearance & disappearance: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
cross (a bridge can cross)
bridge crosses the river
   a ~ there
   fictive motion: verb
crossfire (noun)
rhetorical crossfire
   the purpose of the bill has been lost in the ~
   conflict: weapon
cross hair (in the cross hairs)
in the cross hairs
   another Arab dictator is ~ (Bashar al-Assad of Syria)
   he is ~ (a wanted terrorist)
in regulators’ crosshairs
   the firm is ~ (for fraud)
in the (trade war) crosshairs
   the company is ~
in our crosshairs
   he's ~ (a pedophile)
found himself in the crosshairs
   he has ~ between the left and the right over… (economy)
end up in the crosshairs
   I don’t want to ~ of somebody who’s on a mission to clean house
   ♦ In 2011 in the US, the figurative versus literal meaning of this word caused a political controversy when the politician Gabby Giffords was shot. The USS Gabrielle Giffords is named after her, and her husband is Mark Kelly, astronaut. The opposition had indicated her district on a map with a cross-hairs icon. In 2019, Roger Stone apologized to Judge Amy Berman Jackson for posting an Instagram photo of her next to a rifle scope's crosshair. She said, “Roger Stone fully understands the power of words and the power of symbols. In this age of social media there’s really no such thing as a takeback... There’s nothing ambiguous about a crosshairs.” Stone was on trial for witness tampering, obstruction of justice, and making false statements to Congress.
target: weapon
cross-pollination
cross-pollination of languages
   the natural ~ where they intersect
growth & development: plant
crossroad (at a crossroad)
at a crossroads
   his career is ~
   the South was ~ (Civil War)
   South Sudan is ~ (elections for secession)
   America is ~ (midterm elections)
at a political crossroads
   he finds himself ~ (president)
at a crossroads of his presidency
   he is ~
stands at a crossroads
   the US ~ (support or non-support for dictators)
alternatives & choices: journeys & trips
direction: journeys & trips
crossroad (other)
crossroads in his life
   he’d reached a gloomy ~
gloomy crossroads
   he’d reached a ~ in his life
reached a (gloomy) crossroads
   he’d ~ in his life
alternatives & choices: journeys & trips
direction: journeys & trips
crow (verb)
crowed that
   he ~ he had forced the president to decide (politics)
crowing about its (online holiday) sales
   the company was ~
speech: bird / verb
crown (noun)
jewels in the crown
   they are the ~ of public education (elite NYC high schools)
superlative: royalty
crowned (verb)
crowned at the (party) convention
   the eventual Democratic nominee will be ~ in July
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity royalty
crown jewels
crown jewel of their empire
   the building is the ~ (a business)
crown jewel of the system
   Banff is the ~ (Canadian National Park)
superlative: royalty
crucible (noun)
crucible of anxiety
   how to handle the ~ (college admissions)
crucible of power
   Kandahar has been the main ~ in Afghanistan since…
crucible of suffering
   in this ~ (Arctic exploration)
crucible of (free-market) thought
   he got his degree from the University of Chicago, the ~
crucible of (Nobel Prize) Winners
the Institut Curie became a ~, producing 4 more

war’s (hottest) crucible
the British were sent into the ~ (Sangin, Afghanistan)

environment: container / fire / manufacturing / temperature
crucified
crucified by the media
she has been ~

accusation & criticism: religion / violence
crucify (verb)
crucify me
they are going to ~ this season (on a reality show)

accusation & criticism: religion / verb / violence
crude (adjective)
crude language
he used ~ to deride the investigation (politics)
he used unusually ~ for a public appearance (politician)

flaws & lack of flaws / speech: materials & substances
crumb (amount)
crumb of comfort
if the team were looking for a ~... (loss)

amount: food & drink
crumble (verb)
crumble
his world began to ~ last October, when…
crumbled
their relationship has ~ (enmity)
in 1968, the Democratic Party ~ (Nixon elected)
crumbling
the regime is ~ (protests)

life crumbled
my ~

decay: erosion / verb
failure, accident & impairment: erosion / verb
destruction: erosion / verb
crunch (crunch time)
crunch time
in terms of the school year, it’s ~ (tests)
as we head into November, ~ (college football)
it was ~, end of the month (military recruitment)
crunch time in the fields
it’s ~ (harvesting Christmas trees)
crunch time in college football
it’s ~
situation: pressure
timeliness & lack of timeliness: pressure
crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
budget crunch
most states are in the middle of a horrific ~
cash crunch
the agency found itself in a ~
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: sound
timeliness & lack of timeliness: pressure
crusade (on a crusade)
on a crusade to document
he is on ~ underage model sites (porn)
campaign: Middle Ages / religion
message: Middle Ages / religion
crusade (on a crusade)
act in (his anti-government) crusade
it was the final ~ (Oklahoma City bombing)

engaged in an (undercover) crusade
she has ~ to document teen porn sites
campaign: Middle Ages / religion
message: Middle Ages / religion
crusade (noun)
crusade to improve
her ~ the city parks she loved (M.M. Graff / NYC)
crusade of violence
a ~, intimidation and harassment (animal rights)
crusade for a bargeway
the ~ on the Red River
crusade for Ms. Katz
finding terrorists has become a ~ (on Internet)

mothers’ crusade
the ~ (to find serial killer of their daughters)
anti-government crusade
it was the final act in his ~ (Oklahoma City bombing)

anti-bullying crusade
an ~ (schools)
anti-cockfighting crusade
successful ~s in Missouri and Arizona
moral crusade
a harsh and intolerant ~

personal crusade
he used his seniority to further his ~s (politician)
political crusade
a grieving mother’s ~ (son killed in Iraq)
signature crusade
he made health-care reform the ~ of his career
successful (anti-cockfighting) crusade
~s in Missouri and Arizona

undercover crusade
she has engaged in an ~ to document… (teen porn)

unlawful crusade
stop an ~ of violence, intimidation, harassment

harsh and intolerant (moral) crusade
a ~

 crusade has sparked a backlash
his ~ (make school lunches more healthful)

engaged in an (undercover) crusade
she has ~ to document… (teen porn)

campaign: Middle Ages / religion
message: Middle Ages / religion

crusader (role)
crusaders for change
articulate ~ (victims of child abuse by clergy)
crusader for peace
she is a ~ (against war in Iraq)
crusader for human rights and harmony
he was a ~ among creeds and races (Tutu)
crusader for miners' rights
Mother Jones, a ~
environmental crusader
Erin Brockovich, the ~ who…

anti-drug crusader
Angela Dawson was an ~ (East Baltimore)

campaign: Middle Ages / person / religion
message: Middle Ages / person / religion
person: religion

crush (love)
crush on him
I had the biggest ~

feeling, emotion & effect: force / love, courtship & marriage

crush (destroy)
crush the rebellion
the government vows to ~ (in Darfur)
crushed the revolt
Hussein’s loyal military units ~ (Iraq / Shiites)
crush the uprising
a swift military response would ~
vowed to crush
Ethiopian officials ~ the rebels

destruction: hand / verb

 crush (feeling and emotion)
crushes a child's confidence
nothing ~ faster than unkind words
crush the human spirit
realities in life that almost ~

feeling, emotion & effect: hand / verb
destruction: hand / verb

 crushed

 crushed
when she heard the restaurant had closed, she was ~
I was ~ (gay coach loses support)

feeling, emotion & effect: force

 crutch (noun)

 crutch
sleep is a ~ (military-training bravado)

permanent crutch
a crutch can become a ~ (controlled economies)

use genetics as a crutch
alcoholics ~ to explain their behavior
turned assistance into a crutch
the welfare state has ~

dependency: health & medicine

cry (cry for help)

 heartbreaking cry for help
a ~

appeal: speech

cry (rallying cry)

 rallying cry
"economic empowerment" has become the ~
its "best in the world" ~ (U.S. Olympic skiing team)

rallying cry in education
the ~ has been…

appeal: military

crybaby (person)
crybaby
cry out (verb)
cries out for attention
it ~ (immigration policy)
cried out for a (legal) remedy
the injustice ~
appeal: speech / verb

crystal ball

crystal ball
I don’t have a ~ (speaking about what might happen)
stock analysts are fortunetellers looking into ~s


cudgel (noun)
cudgel against people of color
when civility is used as a ~
rhetorical cudgel
the word socialism has often been used as a kind of ~ (US)
turned into this kind of a cudgel
eventually the term was ~ and mockery (politically correct)

curate (verb)
curate lists
sites like MTV ~ (of songs)
curated NPR’s home page
he wrote and edited feature news coverage and ~
taxonomy & classification: verb

curvature (corruption)
curvature into resentment
their joy will ~ (sports fans)
corruption: food & drink / verb

cure (verb)
cures
spanking causes more problems than it ~
cure the men of their loneliness
the bar scene fails to ~
"cure" homosexuality
you can’t ~
cures problems
aid often causes rather than ~ (in Africa)
amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb

cure (noun)
cure
the ~ would be worse than the disease (solution)
cure for boredom
poor, uneducated youths use heroin as a ~ (Butuo)
cure for (the world’s) problems
a ~
magic cure
there is no ~ (for kid fire-setting behavior)
miracle cure
there’s no ~ on the horizon (brain tumors)
disagree on the cure
experts and leaders ~ (world economy)
use heroin as a cure
poor uneducated youths ~ for boredom (Butuo)
amelioration & renewal: health & medicine

cure-all
technological cure-all
    all too often planners seek ~s (computer security)

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine

currency (worth)
currency in its negotiations
    Beijing can used its relationship with Korea as ~ with the US

worth & lack of worth: money

current (noun)
current of racism
    the underlying ~ is still very real
deep current
    a ~ of fear is running through Iraq’s Christian minority

force: river

curiouser and curiouser
curiouser and curiouser
    it was all about to get ~

fantasy & reality: allusion

curse (noun)
curse
    the bureaucracy, already a ~, is getting worse (Russia)
curse of Somalia
    clan rivalries have been the ~
Curse of Caricola
    the club has since been haunted by the ~ (own goal)
curse of capitalism
    materialism is the ~
curse of the taigá
    the ~, flies (gnus / Ussuria)
oil’s (historic) curse
    ~ (a hollow economic boom, followed by bust)
salmon's curse
    it is the ~ to be so nutritious (bears, eagles, etc.)
resource curse
    Venezuela suffers from the ~ (has energy, blackouts)
    break the so-called ~ (wealth siphoned off by corruption)
blessing and a curse
    these gems have been a ~ (Sierra Leone diamonds)
    the annual rains are a ~ for the subcontinent (monsoon)
gift and a curse
    having a good platoon, it's both a ~ (combat medic)
    break the (so-called) resource curse

~ (mineral wealth siphoned off by corruption)
comes with a curse
    many believe the position ~ (Grateful Dead keyboardist)
cost & benefit: magic / religion

worth & lack of worth: magic / religion
cursed

cursed with allergies
    I am ~
cursed with droughts
    the area is ~
cursed by weak leadership
    the country is ~
poker gods
    he felt cursed by the ~
cursed team
    it seemed that Brazil was a ~ (soccer)
seemingly cursed (m)
    she belongs to a ~ family

affliction: magic / religion

fate, fortune & chance: magic / religion
curtain (pull back the curtain)
pull back the curtain
    he is expected to ~ on the president’s business dealings
pulled back the curtain on his secret life
    the video has ~
pulled back the curtain on dozens
    he ~ of failed analyses (scientist)
pulled back the curtain on spycraft
    he wrote novels that ~ to reveal how things really got done

concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / theater
curtain call
made a curtain call
    he ~ and tipped his hat (baseball)
brought winter back for a curtain call
    the spring snowstorm ~

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: theater
appearance & disappearance: theater
curve (behind / ahead of the curve)

ahead of the curve
    we have been ~
stay ahead of the curve
    we need to ~ (deep-fake videos / fake news)
timeliness & lack of timeliness shape
readiness & preparedness: shape
**cushion (verb)**
cushion the blow
the official tried to ~ (son grievously wounded in war)

amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness

**cushion (noun)**
cash cushion
corporations are sitting on ~s
economic cushion
his savings provided him with an ~

amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness

**cusp (on the cusp)**
on the cusp of adulthood
her child died ~

proximity: astronomy
division & connection: astronomy

**cut (noun)**
deep cuts
he wants to make ~ in programs for the poor
dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / knife

**cut (verb)**
cut taxes
he wants to ~ (a politician)
dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / knife

**cut (cut both ways)**
cuts both ways
the Western concept ~ (human rights)

feeling, emotion & effect: blade / knife

**cut (a thousand cuts)**
death by a thousand cuts
he's suffering ~ (a prosecutor with weak case)
a ~ is the future (restricting right to abortion)
suicide by a thousand cuts
the company is committing ~ (failing)

affliction: blade / knife

**cut off (verb)**
cut off (diplomatic) relations
Venezuela ~ Colombia
curtailment: blade / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / verb

**cut off (speech)**
cut me off
I tried to tell her but she ~

speech: blade / knife / verb

---

**cutthroat**
cutthroat business
back then in Russia, it was a ~ (oil)
cutthroat game
he wasn't there to play the ~ (Survivor)
cutthroat world
in the ~ of college admission applications

allegiance, support & betrayal: blade / knife
behavior: blade / knife
competition: blade / knife / violence

**cutting edge (on the cutting edge)**
on the cutting edge
Californians are ~ (exercises)
on the cutting edge of outbreak surveillance
the Medical Center is ~

driving force: blade
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: blade

**cutting edge (other)**
cutting-edge drug
~ like Zofran
cutting-edge field
the ~s of computer engineering
cutting-edge imagery
cutting-edge research
the chase to produce ~
cutting-edge technocrats

driving force: blade
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: blade

**czar (noun)**
cybersecurity czar
Dick Clarke, a former ~

power: history / person

---

**dagger**
dagger to this Cameroon side
that is a ~ (third English goal in World Cup)
dagger blow
we must deal sharp ~s to the terrorists

3-point dagger
he sealed the deal with a ~ with 5 seconds left (basketball)
inserted the dagger
he ~ with a 15-foot-jumper (basketball)
put the dagger in
you get a chance to shoot the three, ~ (basketball)
♦ “Out here, people had a smile on their face and a dagger behind their back.” (Bigotry and discrimination.)

feeling, emotion & effect: blade / knife
destruction: blade / knife
dam (psychological dam, etc.)

psychological dam
a flood of memories burst through the ~ he had built

obstacles & impedance: dam / river
constraint & lack of constraint: dam / river
damage (noun)
damage to Amanda
the TV show is causing real ~ (a murder case)
ongoing damage
there is an ~ (a TV show about murder case)
threat of damage
there is a ~ (to a murder case, by a TV show)
destruction: ruins
damage control
damage control
he is not a seasoned politician who knows how to do ~
do damage control
the CEO went on CNBC to ~ (about product safety)
amelioration & renewal: boat / military
dampen (verb)
dampen a man's (sexual) arousal
the smell of a woman's tears will ~ (a study)
dampen the enthusiasm
heavy security didn't dampen the ~ of fans (Olympics)
the weather did not ~ at the fair
dampened (people's) spirit
the wet weather has ~ (France)
feeling, emotion & effect: water / verb
attenuation: water / verb
damper (noun)
damper on our sex life
taking care of a baby put a real ~
obstacles & impedance: mechanism
dance (resemblance)
dance across the flats
whirling dust devils ~ (Nevada)
heat waves danced
down in the valley the ~
resemblance: verb / walking, running & jumping

movement: verb / walking, running & jumping
dance (dance around something)
dancing around partisan gerrymandering
the Supreme Court has been ~ for years
danced around the issue
he ~
avoidance & separation: walking, running & jumping
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: walking, running & jumping / verb
dandelion (character)
dandelions
most kids tend to be like ~, fairly resilient and able to cope
orchid or a dandelion
is your child an ~
♦ Compare with teacup and snowflake. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a shrinking violet; a pansy; a wallflower. The modern update on that is orchid (versus a dandelion).

character & personality: person / plant
strength & weakness: person / plant
resiliency: person / plant
Dantesque (adjective)
Dantesque horror
it was a scene of ~ (surgery during genocide)
♦ “It is another path that you must take / if you would leave this savage wilderness.”

environment: allusion / religion
situation: allusion / religion
dark (in the dark)
in the dark on that
we were ~ (Iran nuclear purchases)
in the dark about how
the US was ~ events would unfold (diplomacy)
completely in the dark
our communications are down, we're ~
keep the opposition in the dark
it's a way to ~
kept the public in the dark
he denied he ~ about… (official)
kept in the dark
lawmakers complained they were ~ (politics)
many officials were ~ about the journey (secret visit)
he thought that the Pope was being ~ regarding key events
groping in the dark
doctors were really ~ (cures for infection in the 1800s)
consciousness & awareness: light & dark
dark (dark mood, etc.)

dark mood
she returned in a ~
dark obsession
his hatred for him had become a ~
dark predictions
there are ~ that Boeing will lay off even more workers
dark secret
I realized that people are carrying around ~s (pastor)
dark times
you keep on going even through the ~ (musician)
dark tradition
the Pacific Northwest's ~ of serial killers
dark truth
there is ~ in what you are saying (a harsh conclusion)
looks (very) dark
his future ~ indeed

feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark
oppression: light & dark

Dark Ages (in the Dark ages)
in the dark ages
in those days, medical knowledge was ~
~, when you and I were growing up (old phones)
in the dark ages of (personal) computing
~, if you wanted to…
in the predigital dark ages
~, before computers…
keep (medical) science in the dark ages
the fundamentalists would ~
take us back to the dark ages
the fundamentalists would ~

decay: history
growth & development: history
knowledge & intelligence: history

Dark Ages (other)

Darwinian

Darwinian
the Republican's stem-cell policy represents the ~
ideological dark ages
this is a step forward from the ~ (education issue)
return to the dark ages
this is a ~
sinking into the dark ages
the country is ~ (immigration)
brought our country out of the dark ages
he ~ (Sultan Qaboos bin Said)

decay: history

growth & development: history
knowledge & intelligence: history
darken (verb)
darkened
his outlook ~
darken his mood
the stressful process seemed to ~ (troubled soldier)

feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark
oppression: light & dark

darknet (computers)
darknet
the "~," a private swath of the Internet
the ~ is beyond the reach of law enforcement
building the "darknet"
Freenet is one of several technologies that are ~
join a darknet
to ~, a potential user must be trusted (file sharing)

computer: light & dark
darling (noun)
darling of the (Obama) Administration
the solar company Solyndra was a ~ (failed)
darling of the judges
Alvarez brushed off the notion that he is the ~ (boxing)
darling of Wall Street
rapid growth made the company the ~ (addictive pain meds)
tech darling
Theranos was on the cusp of becoming a ~
pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage
attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage
dart (dart about)
darts about
the staff ~
speed: verb / weapon
movement: verb / weapon

Darwinian

Darwinian
the process is ~ (casting boys for a popular play)
Darwinian competition
women live in ~ with one another for rich men
Darwinian situation
street hailing can create ~s (cabs)
Darwinian (insurance) system
sick people are further stricken by a ~ (US)
Darwinian view
this ~ of the workplace is widespread (China)
Darwinian world
the ~ of the bond market

competition: allusion
predation: allusion
daughter (noun)
daughter of Hope and Fear
   Religion is a ~ (Ambrose Bierce)
product / relationship: family

David and Goliath, etc.

David
   we can be a ~ in a situation where there’s a Goliath (politics)

strength & weakness: allusion / Bible / religion
dawn (verb)
dawning on him
   it was ~ that…
dawn on me
   it didn’t ~ at the time that…
dawned on her
   it eventually ~ that…
dawning on us
   it was slowly ~ the Germans had killed them all (Holocaust)

comprehension & incomprehension: day / verb
consciousness & awareness: day / verb
dawn (from / since the dawn)
from the dawn of Japanese TV
   ~, every sumo tournament has been broadcast live
since the dawn of the Petroleum Age
   ~ more than a century ago…
starting, going, continuing & ending: day
dawn (noun)
dawn of a new (pandemic) age
   it’s the ~
dawn of a new era
   today marks the ~ (political speech)
   this is the ~ in human spaceflight (SpaceX Crew Dragon)
false dawn
   there have been many ~s leading to frustration (unity)
starting, going, continuing & ending: day
day (have one’s day)
had its day
   the German shepherd has ~ (the dog breed)
had their day
   cats have ~ (on the Internet)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day
day (in the old days, etc.)
in the better days
   we were in Beirut, Beirut ~, and we were playing cards
   (O’Toole and Sharif)
in the old days
   the reverence accorded ~ to Joe Hill (Kentucky)
   ~ it was known as Happy Top (area of town)
   ~ racial hatred was common
   ~, before people could buy salt blocks for their sheep
   (Navaho)
in the old days of coal
   this couldn’t have happened ~ (mountaintop removal)
in the "bad old days"
   ~ of Times Square (porn sleaze)
life in the old days
   ~ was perhaps not so good

past & present: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day
day (old days)
old days
   many are speaking fondly of the ~
   just think back to the ~ when people didn't have…
bad old days
   memories of the ~ of Suharto (Indonesia)
   this is a step backwards to the ~ of the 1980s (policy)
good old days
   I heard quite a bit of talk of the so-called ~, when…
return to the "old days"
   what he really wants is a ~ (Pakistani Christian)
faces from the old days
   seeing the familiar ~ (a windsurfer)
spoke (fondly) of the old days
   he ~ (reminiscing)

past & present: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day
day (back in the day)
back in the day
   ~, a teacher could keep a bottle of whiskey in her desk
listened to back in the day
   that's the music I ~

past & present: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day
day (days of yore)
days of yore
   the parents yearned for those ~ (when the family was rich)

past & present: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 187 of 982
day (at the end of the day)

at the end of the day
  but ~ the true beauty of the stone remains
  but ~ they support our lives (sheep / herders)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: day

day (early / late in the day)

early in the day
  it’s still ~ (the progress of a war)
late in the day
  it’s rather ~ to be suggesting a change to the plan
timeliness & lack of timeliness: day

day (of one’s day)

astronauts of their day
  whalers were the true ~
spaceships of their day
  whaling ships were the ~
past & present: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day

day (the light of day)

saw the light of day
  the report never ~ (government)
concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark

day (these days)

these days
  ~, when Chevron signs a contract…
  Africans ~ are quicker to express their anger
  but few people are buying baskets ~ (famine)
  ~, we eat once or twice a day (Zimbabwe)
  many marginally qualified climbers flock to Everest ~
past & present: day

day (those days)

those days
  ~ are obviously long gone (dumb workers)
  ~ are over (no running water)
past & present: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day

day (dark day)

dark day in the history
  it’s a ~ of the church (pedophilia scandals)
darkelest day in the club’s history
  it was the ~ (Munich air disaster / Manchester United)
feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark

day (new day)

new day has come
  a ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: day
future: day

days (glory days)

glory days are back
  the ~ at this hotel (restored 1891 hotel)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day

day (early days)

early days
  it’s still ~ for the organization
growth & development: day
starting, going, continuing & ending: day

day (day has arrived, etc.)

day has arrived
  the big ~ (heavy-weight boxing match)
past & present: day / direction / movement
future: day / direction / movement
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: day / direction / movement

day (modern day)

modern-day Noah’s Ark
  Norway’s Global Seed Vault is a ~ for plant seeds
modern-day P. T. Barnum
  he is sort of a ~ (an arena builder and promoter)
modern-day hermits
  in Japan half a million people live as ~ (hikikomori)
modern-day lepers
  we treat them like ~ (fat people)
past & present: day

daylight (division)

daylight between the two men on the issue
  there is not much ~
division & connection: light & dark / proximity / shadow

daze (in a daze)

in a daze
  he was ~ (news of murder)
feeling, emotion & effect: force

dazzle (verb)

dazzled the delegates
  he ~ (a politician)
dazzled him
  the kid ~ (Zion Williamson, basketball player)
feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / verb
dead (status)

dead
reform is ~
dead and buried
the peace process is ~
Spurs looked ~ when Ziyech scored against them, but...
(soccer)

condition & status: death & life

dead (functioning)

went dead
the line ~ before a reporter could get more details

functioning: death & life

dead (dead on arrival)

dead on arrival
a month ago the initiative looked ~

condition & status: death & life / health & medicine

dead (in the water)

dead in the water
the initiative is now ~

condition & status: death & life / fish / movement
failure, accident & impairment: fish
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / fish / movement

dead (rise from the dead)

rose from the dead
they ~ (a winning football team)

amelioration & renewal: religion / verb

dead end

dead ends
most of the tips turned out to be ~ (investigation)
dead-end job
characters with ~s
whiling away productive years at a ~
disappointing dead ends
there were many ~ (hunt for missing girl)

wrong turns and dead ends
the series had some ~ (a TV show)

led to dead ends
attempts to find his birth mother ~

led to a dead end
eyery lead ~ (missing hunters)

success & failure; journeys & trips

failure, accident & impairment: journeys & trips

deadening (effect)

mind-deadening (m)
~ checks
sound-deadening (m)
install ~ windows

feeling, emotion & effect: death & life

dead heat

dead heat
the presidential run-off is a ~, too close to call

competition: horse

deadly

politically deadly
if the accusations are true, this would be ~ for him

destruction: death & life

deadwood

deadwood
as the lowest-ranking official, I felt like ~

worth & lack of worth: tree

deaf

blind, deaf and dumb
terrorists are ~ to all reason and decency

consciousness & awareness: ear

deal (done deal)

done deal
just three weeks ago, his nomination looked like a ~

certainty & uncertainty: money

death (to death)

bored to death
I'm ~, let's do something

scared me to death
it ~

hyperbole: death & life

dead heat

death (cheat death)

cheated death
by recovering from such severe wounds, she ~

fate, fortune & chance: death & life

dead heat

death (decline)

death by a thousand cuts
he's suffering ~ (a prosecutor with weak case)
a ~ is the future (restricting right to abortion)

dead spiral
American newspapers are in a ~ (declining circulations)
death and rebirth
  the primordial pageant of ~ of light (solar eclipse)

dying a slow death
  VHS is ~ (film fans prefer DVDs)

**decline: death & life**

**death (death sentence)**
  automatic death sentence
  H.I.V. is no longer an ~

**death & life: justice**

**deathblow**
  deathblow to our hopes
  deliver a deathblow
  the army is trying to ~ to the militants
  dealt a deathblow to both ideas
  the financial meltdown ~ (foreign policy)
  dealt the hospital a deathblow
  Hurricane Katrina ~

**destruction: death & life / weapon**

**death warrant**
  wrote his own death warrant
  and so he ~

**destruction: death & life**

**fate, fortune & chance: death & life**

**debris**
  debris of a failed season
  fans have been left to sift through the ~
  sorting through the debris
  Democrats are ~ left by Republican wave (election)

**destruction: ruins**

**debt (in somebody's debt)**
  in his debt
  America is deeply ~ (a US politician)
  in your dept for visiting us
  we are ~ (Russian President)
  deeply in his debt
  America is ~ (a US politician)

**obligation: money**

**debt (obligation)**
  debt of gratitude
  we can never repay the ~ owed to our nation's veterans;
  I owe a ~ to… (writer / acknowledgments)
  debt to society
  he has paid his ~ (released from prison)

**debt to soldiers**
  the nation's ~ who fight abroad

**debt to the (Hollywood) musical**
  the choreography owes a clear ~ (filmmaker John Woo)

**nation's debt**
  the ~ to soldiers who fight abroad

**sleep debt**
  racking up a large ~ during the week
  one of the first signs of ~ is irritability

**paid his debt**
  he has ~ many times over (44 years in prison)

**owes a (clear) debt**
  the choreography ~ to the Hollywood musical (film)

**repay the debt**
  we can never ~ of gratitude owed to our nation's veterans

♦ "Pork Chop Hill was held, bought and paid for at the same price we
  commemorate in monuments at Bunker Hill and Gettysburg... Those who
  fought there knew what they did, and the meaning of it." (Pork Chop Hill,
  the 1959 film with Gregory Peck and George Shibata.)

**obligation: money**

**debutant (noun)**
  tournament debutants
  the US team showed no mercy against the ~

**experience: love, courtship & marriage / sex**

**decompression**
  decompression
  after a day at work, all I'm thinking about is ~
  decompression time
  it's real important to have ~ (rescued POWs)

**amelioration & renewal: pressure**
  feeling, emotion & effect: pressure

**deck (deck is stacked)**
  deck is stacked against them
  the ~
  deck is stacked on every hand
  what if the ~ (justice for the poor)

**fate, fortune & chance: cards / sports & games**

**deck (re-shuffle the deck)**
  re-shuffle the deck
  it's totally going to ~ (effects of political controversy)

**disruption: cards**

**deconstruct (verb)**
  deconstructed the (show's) finale
  the creators and producers ~
deconstruction (noun)

pop deconstruction
her podcast is an intensive project of ~ (diet culture)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: infrastructure / verb
deep (extent and scope)
deep roots
they have ~ in the community (Croatians / Louisiana)
deep sense
they have a ~ of sadness

A cartoon in the New Yorker shows a man in his study, standing next to his desk, on which is a cup of coffee, a pen, and a stack of writing paper. He is staring intently out the window with his hands clasped behind his back, in deep thought. Two women are standing in the doorway. The one woman is saying to the other, “George is a deep thinker, but his thoughts rarely come to the surface.”

extent & scope: water
substance & lack of substance: water
deep (in deep)
in deep
he is ~ and I can’t get him out (financial problems)
getting in deeper
you’re ~ every moment you’re gone (Thelma and Louise)

involvement / situation: water
deepen (verb)
deepened the mystery
the new information ~

extent & scope: water / verb
deep-rooted (adjective)
deep-rooted problems
the company must overcome its ~
bases: plant
defang (verb)
defang the consumer watchdog
the administration wants to ~

strength & weakness: animal / snake / verb
force: animal / snake / verb
attenuation: animal / snake / verb
deflate (emotion)
deflated a nation
the loss ~ where… (Mexico / soccer)
deflates them
having pumped the rookies up, he now ~ (NFL)

feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / verb
deflate (pressure)
deflated some criticism
by admitting his mistakes, he has ~ (politician)
deflate (unrealistic) expectations
he would try to ~
deflate a stereotype
people can ~ by embracing it (Hillbilly Days Festival)

attenuation: air / pressure / verb
deflated
deflated
does your job or land of one have you feeling ~
bored and deflated
he sounds ~ despite the Zoloft

feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere
defuse (verb)
defuse her anxiety
try to ~ (separation anxiety / toddler)
defuse crises
promote regional stability and peace and ~ (military)
defuse (volatile) crises
he was sent in to ~ (FBI hostage negotiator)
defuse the disagreement
he is trying to ~ among his allies (coalition)
defuse the issue
the first thing to do is ~ by backing off… (toddlers)
defused the situation
tribal elders ~
defuse tensions
the US has urged the Russians and Georgians to ~; a move to ~ between the traditional rivals (China / Japan)
amelioration & renewal: explosion / verb
delirious (adjective)
delirious (Korean) fans
millions of ~, aptly known as the Red Devils (soccer)
delirious celebration
scenes of ~ at Moscow’s Luzhniki Stadium (World Cup)
behavior: health & medicine
enthusiasm: health & medicine
delirium (noun)
delirium of his fans
he raised an arm aloft to acknowledge the ~ (a boxer)
behavior: health & medicine
enthusiasm: health & medicine
Delphic (adjective)
Delphic pronouncements
he hands out index cards inscribed with ~ (self-help guru)
comprehension & incomprehension: allusion / religion

deluge (noun)

deluge
the trickle became a ~ (customer orders)
deluge of (electronic) data
how to organize and search through a ~
deluge of (holiday) orders
companies couldn’t handle the ~
deluge of refugees
Tunisia is struggling to cope with a ~
deluge of tips
the public has responded with a ~ (hunting terrorists)

amount & effect: flood / water
movement: flood / water

deluged

deluged with advice
you’ll be ~ (about how to potty train your toddler)
deluged with complaints
they are being ~ from residents and merchants
deluged with questions
Hale has been ~ about Islam (9/11)
deluged with (thousands of) requests
the office was ~ (for a pamphlet)
drug-deluged
a ~ neighborhood

amount & effect: flood / water

delusion (under a delusion)

under no delusion
I’m ~ this will stop everyone from cheating, but…

fantasy & reality: mental health

delusion (other)

seek refuge in delusion
many in the Middle East ~, denial and fantasy

fantasy & reality: mental health

demented

demented policy
the Republicans are committed to a ~ of failure

fantasy & reality: health & medicine / mental health
behavior: health & medicine / mental health

demon (affliction)

demons of the past
we must exorcise the ~ (Island of Gorée and slavery)
personal demons
her life has been plagued by drugs and other ~

feeling, emotion & effect: mark

depression

fell into a depression
she ~
fell into a (deep) depression
he ~, popping pain pills and swilling tequila

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

depth (out of one’s depth)

out of our depth
we were way ~ (ignorance)

feeling, emotion & effect: creature

demonization (noun)

demonization of a black Muslim woman
over-the-top ~ (Omar Ilhan)

accusation & criticism: creature
characterization: creature

demonized

idolized and demonized
he has been alternately ~ by the press (a boxer)

accusation & criticism: creature
characterization: creature

dent (noun)

dent in spending
they want to make a big ~ and the deficit
making a dent in that (appalling) statistic
they are ~ (death in childbirth)
put a dent in the deficit
he wants to ~ (a politician)

feeling, emotion & effect: mark

depression

fell into a depression
she ~
fell into a (deep) depression
he ~, popping pain pills and swilling tequila

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

depth (out of one’s depth)

out of our depth
we were way ~ (ignorance)
out of my depth in this matter
I'm ~ (lacks expertise)

out of his depth during engineering discussions
he was ~

*ability & lack of ability: water*
survival, persistence & endurance: water
experience: water

depth (depths of winter, etc.)
in the depths of (the arctic) winter
time: water
depth (extent)
depths of their bitterness
grasp the ~ (Turks on death fast)
depth of its (fiscal) distress
accounting obscured the ~ (hospital)
depth of his knowledge
they came away impressed with the ~
depth of your sorrow
we cannot imagine the ~ (daughters murdered by MS-13)
depth and experience
the soccer team has ~ at virtually all positions

*extent & scope: water*
descend (verb)
descended into mob rule
the confirmation hearing ~ (protests)
descended into violence
a peaceful mass rally ~

*behavior: direction / verb*
descent: direction / verb

derail (verb)
derailed his career
laziness ~ (athlete)
derail a professor’s career
it’s just as likely that a student can ~ these days (sex)
derail (health-care) reform
the Republicans tried to ~
derail her story
he is trying to ~ (a celebrity)
derail our strategy
the insurgents will not ~
derail this (vulnerable economic) upturn
a conflict with Iran could yet ~ (in US)
avalanche of (prejudicial) comment
the murder trial was nearly derailed by an ~ on social media

*failure, accident & impairment: train*
derailed
derailed the hype train was ~ (a Y.A. book, by sensitivity readers)
derailed by an avalanche
the murder trial was nearly ~ of prejudicial comment on social media

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: insect / verb

*behavior: insect / verb*

descend (descend on)
descend on London
a million tourists will ~ (Olympics)

*coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: insect / verb*

*behavior: insect / verb*
descent (decline)
descent into alcoholism
she herself began a gradual ~
descent into (pugilistic) dementia
his slow and steady ~ (Mike Quarry)
descent into despair
her public ~ (suicide at MIT)
descent into intolerance
this is a sad milestone on our ~ (murder)
descent into (Webcam) pornography
he described his ~
public descent
her ~ into despair (suicide at MIT)
slow and steady descent
his ~ into pugilistic dementia (Mike Quarry)

*primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction*
descent (decline)
descent (verb)
deserted the village for the (big) towns
his own grown children have ~ (Indonesian Borneo)
deserted him
his smooth putting stroke ~ ("the yips" / golfing)

*allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb*
desert (food desert, etc.)
child-care deserts
about half of Americans live in ~

*food desert ~s have little access to fresh food (urban areas) ~s are poor areas bereft of fresh-food grocers

*food-desert (m) ~ the ideal store for ~ residents is a chain supermarket

*news deserts ~ she tracks ~ (no local news)
cultural desert
the third- and fourth-tier cities are no longer ~s
♦ "You are mad, to come to Aqaba by land we should have to cross the Nefud Desert." (Lawrence of Arabia, the film.)

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: desert
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: ground, terrain & land
desert (environment)
turning huge swathes of rainforest into desert
the illegal gold mining is ~ (Peru)
environment: desert / ground, terrain & land
resemblance: desert / ground, terrain & land
destabilizing (adjective)
destabilizing standoff
US officials scrambled to defuse the ~ (in Iraq)

feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability
disruption: equilibrium & stability
dethrone (verb)
dethrone the champs
this is the start of their quest to ~ (NBA)
dethrone (cultural) gatekeepers
the digerati effort to ~ (Web)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: royalty / verb
detonate (verb)
detonated (national) outrage
the manner of his killing ~ (hate crime)
primed to detonate
the film was ~ this weekend (open)
ready to detonate
a blast is ~ (the Kyoto Protocol)

initiation: explosion / verb
detour (noun)
inexplicable detour
to me, it’s an ~ that your life took (musician works as currency trader)
course: trips & journeys
Detroit (India’s Detroit, etc.)
India’s Detroit
Chennai is ~, an auto-industry hub
place: epithet / manufacturing
device (noun)
"commitment device"
a ~ can help you do something difficult

help & assistance: tools & technology
death (Devil’s Falls, etc.)
Devil’s Falls
~ (Wales)
Devils Hole
the ~ (both a cave and a North Sea undersea feature)
Devil’s Home
the ~ (a stony hill / Udehé)
Devil’s Nose
the ~ (a section of the Mokelumne River)
Devil’s Path
the ~ (bleak desert terrain in the Southwest of the US)
Devil’s Pulpit
the ~ (an outcrop in a gorge)
Devil’s Throat
~ is a must (Iguazu Falls)

Red Devils
delirious Korean fans, aptly known as the ~s (soccer)

proper name: creature / religion
devil (behavior)
devil
he can be a real ~ at times (a toddler)

behavior / character & personality: creature / religion
devotee (person)
devotee of (a particular) theory
he’s no ~ (a coach)
orchid devotees
as other ~ will attest…
tROUT fishing devotees
~ worship Snowbird Creek
enthusiasm: person / religion
person: religion
devour (devour the classics, etc.)
devoured the classics
1 ~
devoured *Dracula*  
he had ~ by the age of five

devoured these films  
this generation of adults ~ as children (Disney)

devoured (HG Wells’) *War of the Worlds*  
as a child, Brunner ~ (the writer)

devour Christie’s work  
readers continue to ~ (Agatha Christie)

*consumption: food & drink / verb*

devour (destroy)  
devoured hundreds of acres  
the fire ~

destruction: animal / food & drink / predation /verb
devoured  
devoured by anxiety  
she is ~ when she’s not working (magazine editor)

*feeling, emotion & effect: animal / food & drink / predation*

destruction: animal / food & drink / predation
diagnosis (noun)  
diagnosis  
the ~ is wrong, and the prescription is malpractice

*analysis, interpretation & explanation: health & medicine*

dial (dial down / back)  
dial back arrests, incarcerations  
we need to ~ (reform)

dial it back  
don’t drink every day, ~ (alcohol)

dial down the rancor  
we need to ~

*increase & decrease: direction / mechanism / verb*

dice (noun)  
roll of the dice  
publishing is a constant ~, a gamble  
it’s a ~, I suppose (correctly controlling development)

throw of the dice  
the substitution was a late ~ (soccer)

roll the dice  
the Air Force is going to ~ (new plane)

okay, if you want to ~, go ahead (take the chance)  
we’re going to ~ and see what happens  
you know I like to ~, but this is going too far

*fate, fortune & chance: gambling*

**Dickensian**  
Dickensian character  
he was a ~, a poor immigrant adopted, then rejected

Dickensian childhood  
his ~ may have fueled his ambition (poverty)  
she survived a ~

Dickensian poverty  
she lived in ~

Dickensian tenements  
he rose out of the city’s ~ (India)

Dickensian world  
a ~ of have-and-have-nots

Dickensian warehouses  
its orphanages became famous as ~ (Romania)

*environment: allusion*

die (hyperbole)  
dying to meet him  
I’m just ~

die from boredom  
we were just about ready to ~

dying back here  
can we turn up the AC, I’m ~ (car)

*hyperbole: death*

die (survival)  
die  
the fire would not ~ (civil rights)

died  
the rumors never ~ (of marital infidelity)

dies  
no good thing ever ~ (Shawshank Redemption)

die hard  
dreams ~

old habits ~

race-based voting traditions ~ here

innovate or die  
“~” has long been the mantra in the computer world

dreams die  
~ hard

habits die  
old ~ hard

project died  
the ~ before it got off the ground

traditions die  
race-based voting ~ hard here

♦ "You know, the cowboy in me just ain’t gonna die." (92-year-old black ex-rodeo rider.)

♦ "Soldiers who die are taken to a holding area, where they are made to do manual labor to underscore the point that dying is never fun." (Military training.)

♦ "When I eat, I live. When I drink, I die. What am I?" (A fire, of course!)

*starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / verb*
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb
die down (verb)

hype dies down
once the media ~ (elections)
opposition has not died down
~ (Chechnya)
wind had died down
the ~
gunfire died down
after the ~…
evolved from death & life / fire / verb

die out (end)
fire is dying out
we've used up all our wood, and the ~
faded or died out
knowledge of the language has ~ (Cherokee)
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / fire / verb
diet (noun)
diet of him
none of us wanted a steady ~ (a dominant golfer)
diet of left hooks and right hands
he fed Mayorga a steady ~ (De La Hoya)
steady diet
none of us wanted a ~ of him (a dominant golfer)

dig (dig in / into)
dug into actions
investigators ~ and uncovered crimes
digs (deep) into their lives
he ~ until they… (TV therapist Phil McGraw)
dig into a word's history
it's fun to ~ (etymology)
dug into the community's past
residents ~ (local history)
dig into this
now to ~ more... (talk show)
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / fire / verb
analysis, interpretation & explanation: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb
dig (dig out)
dig our way out of this problem
we must think how we will ~
survival, persistence & endurance: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb
resiliency: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb
dig (dig through)
digs through (bargain) bins
he ~ for rare music tapes
dig through my crates
I'm gonna ~ for your old funky tapes
dug through the (old case) files
he ~ (police)
dug through a pile of (shiny) rocks
they ~ at a gem stand

experience: food & drink
consumption: food & drink
digest (verb)
digest the facts
it was hard to ~
comprehension & incomprehension: food & drink / verb
dig in (verb)
digging in
he is ~ (embattled leader)
he is firing back and his legal team is ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: ground, terrain & land / verb
dig out (verb)
dug out her (old) .32 pistol
  she ~ and visited the shooting range
dug out a bottle of ibuprofen
  I ~ and poured some pills into his hand
searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb
dig up (verb)
digs up documents from Web sites
  she ~
dug up (a lot of) information at the library
  I ~
dug up this citation from an old magazine
  he has ~
searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb
diluted (weakened)
heavily diluted
  calls for his power to be ~ (Zuckerberg of Facebook)
attenuation: water
dim (decline)
memories dim
  ~ over time (criminal cases)
star (of Lucy Lunsford) dimmed
  how the ~
dim (primacy)
dim the event
  every year some crisis threatens to ~ (awards show)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: light & dark / verb
dim (feeling)
hope dimmed
  ~ for two lost, injured whales (swam upriver)
optimism dimmed
  their ~ fairly quickly (government watchdogs)
feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / verb
din (noun)
add their voice to the din
  students are eager to ~ (campus sex policies)
heard above the din
  she is doing her best to be ~ (running for president)
  ♦ “Life is a tale / told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, / signifying
  nothing.” (Macbeth by Shakespeare.)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound
obstacles & impedance: sound
dinosaur
dinosaur
  pull those old ~s from the shed (retro rodeo / kayaking)
  the mayor has called the downtown landmarks ~s
  many like to argue that libraries are ~s
  the network news anchormen are ~s
  we’re ~s (rely on old technology)
dinosaur feminist
  I’m sounding like a ~, but…
walking dinosaur
  it’s like I’m a really cute ~ (older actor Lucy Lawless)
viewed the (conventional) machines as dinosaurs
  they ~ that would soon be rendered extinct
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal
past & present: animal
dip (noun)
dip in (American) deaths
  after a ~ last spring, fatalities are rising
increase & decrease: direction
diplomacy
model of diplomacy
  a woman who had been a ~ began to cry
politeness and diplomacy
  ~ are often the enemies of action (vs. being rude)
behavior / role: government
diplomatic
more diplomatic
  you should have been ~
behavior / role: government
direction (in every direction)
lurks in every direction
  danger ~
extent & scope: direction
direction (in a direction)
in another direction
  I’m going ~
in a new direction
  a study that takes stress research ~
in the right direction
  the talks are moving ~ (negotiations)
the trends are moving ~
in the wrong direction
Washington is headed ~ (politics)
70 percent of the public believes the country is heading ~
in a direction of hope, unity, conviction
he said he would take Britain ~, and common purpose
step in the right direction
from what I hear, it's a ~
the decision is a small ~
going in another direction
I'm ~ (on a diet plan)
going in the wrong direction
they are ~ (a losing sports team)
heading in the right direction
ty they are ~ (a company)
headed in the wrong direction
Washington is ~ (politics)
led you in that direction
and what ~ to start writing (an actor)
moving in the right direction
we're ~ (research on brain tumors)
take Britain in a direction
he would ~ of hope, unity, conviction, and…
takes research in a new direction
a study that ~
take Britain in a historic new direction
we will ~ (elections)
course: journeys & trips
direction (journey)
direction of (scientific) research
who determines the ~
direction of his life
he wanted to change the ~
direction in their lives
those who lack purpose and ~
China's (future) direction
future direction
China's ~
purpose and direction
those who lack ~ in their lives
change the direction
he wanted to ~ of his life
determines the direction
who ~ of scientific research
follow the direction
the investigation will ~ the evidence leads…
lack (purpose and) direction
those who ~ in their lives
course: journeys & trips
dirt (worthless)
dirt
his name is ~ in the journalism world (disgraced)
worth & lack of worth: ground, terrain & land
dirt (political dirt, etc.)
political dirt
this is top-grade ~
reveal some dirt
critics hoped the report would ~ on the President (politics)
accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land
content: ground, terrain & land
dirty (behavior)
dirty people
the Harif are a ~ (disparaging remark about a tribe)
dirty war
in the 1970s, Argentina fought a "~" against subversion
get dirty
we're all in the mud and have to ~ (intelligence)
playing dirty
he is ~ (a politician)
behavior: hygiene
dirty (sex)
dirty
what she did was ~ (sex)
sex: hygiene
dirty laundry
dirty laundry
the divorce is over with no ~ being aired…
concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / hygiene
dirty word
dirty word
Obama has made profit seem like a ~
speech: hygiene
discard (verb)
discard the possibility
don't ~ of appendicitis (diagnosis)
dismissal, removal & resignation: cards / verb
disciple (person)
Disciples
New Nordic Cuisine Draws ~
enthusiasm: person / religion
person: religion
disconnect (noun)
generational disconnect
there is a ~ (society)
division & connection: tools & technology
disease (affliction)
disease of grade inflation
the ~ has infected the educational system
disease of intolerance
the attack was a part of a greater ~ (terrorism)
affliction: health & medicine
disease (enthusiasm)
disease
it's a bit of a ~ (Jay Leno on collecting cars)
enthusiasm: health & medicine
diseased
fundamentally diseased
the tax code is ~
condition & status: health & medicine
disequilibrium (noun)
fallen into disequilibrium
academic publishing has ~ and desperately needs a new approach
equilibrium & stability: scale flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability
dish (revenge)
dish revenge is a ~ best served cold
revenge: food & drink
dish out (verb)
dished out abuse to the children
nuns ~
dishes out advice to millions
she ~ of people
dished out a beating to Margarito
Pacquiao ~ (boxing)
dished out (ice-cold) revenge on his enemies
he ~ (a media magnate)
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink / verb
disinfectant (noun)
disinfectant of public scrutiny
gangs operate where the ~ struggles to reach (poor neighborhoods)
amelioration & renewal: hygiene / health & medicine
disintegrate (verb)
families have disintegrated
~ (as jobs have moved out of area)
majority had disintegrated
evidence indicated that their ~
began to disintegrate
as Enron's house of cards ~ (bankrupt company)
failure, accident & impairment: erosion / verb
destruction: erosion / verb
disintegration
disintegration of authority
the ~, courtesy and the English language (email, etc.)
failure, accident & impairment: erosion
destruction: erosion
dismantle (verb)
dismantle (legal and de facto) discrimination
the government should ~
dismantle the (terrorist) threat
a campaign to identify, disrupt and ~
dismantle the old order
he hopes to use EU membership to ~
dismantled the (social) safety net
he ~ (Pinochet / Chile)
identify, disrupt and dismantle
a campaign to ~ the terrorist threat
dismissal, removal & resignation: infrastructure / verb
curtailment: infrastructure / verb
dispirited (adjective)
dispirited voters
many ~ stayed home
feeling, emotion & effect: religion
dissect (verb)
dissected his sound
I really ~ (a singer)
dissect ever rumor
blogs are always ready to ~
dissecting, analyzing
we are ~ the blood-testing company Theranos
dissolve (verb)

dissolve into anarchy
celebration could ~ (Gaza)
dissolves into predictability
the movie's unpolished charm ~
appearance & disappearance: water / verb
dissolve (break up)
dissolved in a wave of dissension
the team ~ (World Cup soccer)
appearance & disappearance: water / verb
dissolve (fade away)
culture dissolved
the hunting ~ and many Sami became settlers
appearance & disappearance: water / verb
dissolve (emotions)
dissolved into tears
when his Mom tried to leave, he ~ (toddler)
feeling, emotion & effect: verb / water
dissolve (terminate)
dissolve her marriage
a judge may ~ (Islam)
dissolve Parliament
he is considering giving himself the power to ~
dissolved the system
in 1993 Yeltsin ~ of village councils
curtailment: water / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: water / verb
dissolved
have her marriage dissolved
she has the right to ~ (Muslim ruling)
starting, going, continuing & ending: water
dismissal, removal & resignation: water
distance (verb)
distanced themselves from him
colleges have ~ (college admissions fraud)
avoidance & separation: proximity
distance (noun)
distance between the two sides
the ~ is so great that... (politics)
division & connection: proximity
distance (feeling)
emotional distance
his ~ has caused problems
feeling, emotion & effect: proximity
distaste (noun)
distaste for such associations
he has a ~
enthusiasm: taste
ditch (noun)
stuck in a ditch
while our students are ~, the world is moving ahead
get out of the ditch
we're just spinning our wheels, hoping to ~ (war)
pull the government out of the ditch
he seeks to ~ (a politician)
progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land
obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land
dive (noun)
stock market's dive
the ~ proved temporary
decline: direction
dive (deep dive)
do a deep dive
let’s ~ right into this (news show)
did a (really) deep dive
these researchers ~ to analyze alcohol consumption
analysis, interpretation & explanation: water
dive in (verb)
dive (right) in
too many friends just ~ giving advice before...
dove into politics
he ~
dove into peacekeeping
Clinton ~ and failed (diplomacy)
involved: water / verb
divide (noun)
divide between him and his coaches
the ~ grew (an athlete)
great divide
they stood on two sides of a ~ (Old and New Hollywood)
impossible divide
that may be an ~ to cross
cultural, gender and political divides
the battle rubbed raw the country’s ~ (politics)
generational and ideological divide
this exposes a ~ (in the Democratic party)
divide (between him and his coaches) grew the ~ (an athlete)
bridging the divide
ballet and baseball are ~ (between Cuba and the US)
bridge the divide
they want to ~ and find common ground (gun control / suicide)
divide to cross
that may be an impossible ~

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

**dividend (pay dividends)**
paying dividends in good-will
the new policy is ~
paid huge dividends
the concept has ~ (military uses drones to kill)
pay political dividends
his wooing of Jews will ~
already paying dividends
the new policy is ~
pressure paid dividends
England’s ~ when Owen scored (soccer)

**cost & benefit: money**

**divorce (noun)**
Web divorce
NBC and Microsoft agreed to an amicable ~
diplomatic divorce
a trade war could lead to a ~ (US and Canada)

division & connection: love, courtship & marriage
relationship: love, courtship & marriage

**doctored**
doctored
the photo has been ~

**creation & transformation: health & medicine**

**dodo**
gone the way of the Dodo
pay phones have ~

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal**
past & present: animal

**DNA (in the DNA)**
in their DNA
winning is ~ (Brazilian soccer team)

part of your DNA
as a football player, ~ is hard work and effort

**identity & nature: biology**

**DNA (other)**
nation’s DNA
confrontation and conflict are hardwired into the ~ (US)

**identity & nature: biology**

**dodge (verb)**
dodged a question
he also ~ about whether…
dodges questions
he ~ about where he gets his ideas

**avoidance & separation: walking, running & jumping / verb**
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: walking, running & jumping / verb

**dog (afflict)**
dog him
his health problems continued to ~
asthma has ~all his life (the great boxer Shannon Briggs)
dogged her
her criminal record ~

**affliction: animal / dog / verb**

**dog (attack dog)**
attack dog for the president
he has been an ~

**coercion & motivation: animal / dog**

**dog (insult)**
"Dogs!"
~ they yelled at the riot police (protestors)

**insult: animal / dog**

**dog (dog won’t hunt)**
dog will hunt
I don’t think that ~ (Democrats’ legal attempt to challenge president)

**success & failure: animal / dog / hunting**
eagerness & reluctance: animal / dog / hunting

**dog-and-pony show (noun)**
did a dog-and-pony show
other legislators ~

**performance: animal / theater**

**dog-eat-dog**
dog-eat-dog world
in a ~
“The majority of the country doesn’t want to see a dog-eat-dog world where everybody is angry all the time.” (Barack Obama, urging Democrats to preach hope and unity.)

competition: animal / dog
predation: animal / dog
dogfight

dogfight
fighter-bombers execute mock ~s
it’s a ~ (competition for market share)
Sergio Aguero scored 64 minutes into the ~ (soccer)
dogfight among experts over the cause
there has been a ~ of the crash

conflict: animal / dog
dogged (hound)
dogged by controversy
the company has been ~ (KBR)
dogged by rumors
he has been ~ of drug and alcohol abuse (NASCAR)
he has been ~ of excessive drinking (a politician)
dogged with poor health
he had been ~ his entire life

affliction: animal / dog
dogged (determined)
dogged determination
our ~ sent an important message to our enemies
dogged (Iraqi) resistance
a day of fierce fighting and ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

commitment & determination: animal / dog
doghouse (in the doghouse)
in the doghouse
he’s ~ (in trouble with his wife)
in the coach’s doghouse
he started out ~ because of weight problems

punishment & recrimination: animal / dog
situation: animal / dog
dogleg (shape)
dogleg turn
an icy, rutted ~ (downhill skiing)
♦ A dogleg is an abrupt angle or sharp bend. Dogleg is also an intransitive verb. Golf courses often have doglegs.

shape: animal / dog
dogma (noun)

Republican dogma
the plan contains every ~ about political economy
trapped by dogma
don’t be ~ (Steve Jobs / Apple Computer)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
doldrums (noun)
stuck in the doldrums
the economy is ~
lead us out of the doldrums
it’s Obama’s job to ~ (poor economy)
mired in the doldrums
we remain ~ (poor economy)
progress & lack of progress: boat / wind
domino (noun)
racist dominoes
it toppled a lot of ~ (boycott)

feeling, emotion & effect / sequence: sports & games
domino (domino effect)
set off a domino effect
this ~ (economic collapse)

feeling, emotion & effect / sequence: sports & games
done and dusted
done and dusted
I thought the Troubles were ~ (Northern Ireland and Brexit)

condition & status: cloth
starting, going, continuing & ending: cloth
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth
donkey
donkey
he’s as stubborn as a ~
“led by donkeys”
~ is a British expression for incompetent leadership

character & personality / insult: animal
doomed
doomed
is longhand ~ (handwriting)
doomed to fall behind
they are ~ (certain categories of students)
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life
decline: death & life
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life
fate, fortune & chance: death & life
door (closure)
shut its doors
he notified the charter school that it must ~...

starting, going, continuing & ending: doors & thresholds
door (opportunity)
doors of opportunity
    many died opening the ~ (civil rights)
    opening the ~ to all God's children (Martin Luther King)
doors in life
    many ~ open automatically for you when you're rich
open door
    baseball offers a very good ~ for a better life (Latinos)
open doors
    going to school will ~ for you
    money tends to ~
opened doors
    it ~ I had never imagined (employment with Ford)
open all doors
    good clothes ~ (a proverb)
open the door
    it ~ to a decent education for blacks (court decision)
    it ~ to what could be done (penicillin and transplants, etc.)
closes one door
    if God ~, he opens a thousand others (Turkish proverb)
broke down doors
    she ~ in comedy (Phyllis Diller)
had (many) doors slammed in his face
    he ~ (a black American)
doors (in life) open
    many ~ automatically for you (when you're rich)

opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds
door (portal)
opened the door
    he ~ to the rave world for us
portal: doors & thresholds
door (access)
open-door
    I have an ~ policy (boss)
opened its doors
    Saudi Arabia has ~ to foreign tourists
banging on the door
    they are ~ of city government (Yimbies)
keep the door open
    I wanted to ~ with him (an interviewer)
found the doors barred
    those trying to escape to the US ~ (to them (Jews)

access & lack of access: doors & thresholds
door (knock at / on the door)
knocking on the door
door (get one’s foot in the door)
get his foot in the door
    he lied on his resume to ~

opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds
door (open the door, etc.)
open door
    the 1st virus weakens, the 2nd then has an ~ to sicken
open a door
    appeasement may ~ to peaceful co-existence, or…
door opens
    once that ~, who knows what will happen

opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds
door (hold the door open, etc.)
hold the door open
    he seemed to ~ for a change in Germany's policy
opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds
door (leave the door open)
left open the door
    the US has ~ for storing nuclear waste in the US
leave the door open
    he seemed to ~ to the possibility of a change
left the door open
    it ~ for an insanity defense
leave the door open for the possibility
    he appears to ~ of a pardon

opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds
door (close a door, etc.)
close the door
    it's wrong to ~ on promising research (human cloning)
door has closed
    the ~ on reform…

opportunities & possibilities: doors & thresholds
door (shown the door, etc.)
shown the door
    official after official in the Department of Homeland Security was ~

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 203 of 982
**dismission, removal & resignation: doors & thresholds**

**doorstep (on / at the doorstep)**

at the doorstep of an (NFL) title
they are ~
on Baghdad's doorstep
coalition forces are poised ~
on death's doorstep
he's ~ (very sick)
the economy is ~
on its doorstep
Saudi Arabia discourages liberalization ~ (Qatar)
Turkey seeks to contain the crisis unfolding ~ (Syria)

**poised on (Baghdad's) doorstep**
coalition forces are ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

**proximity: doors & thresholds**

**dose (amount)**

dose
it's the ~ that makes the poison (emailing, etc.)
dose of inspiration
he provided the team a ~
dose of criticism
the president received a fair ~ for his speech
dose of humility
we all need a good ~ (debate and opinions)
dose of reality
he needs a ~ (selfish teen)
dose of sanity
we could use a ~
dose of wisdom
they got a ~ from the coach
he brings a ~ to the government
dose of goodwill
the project has earned the US a ~ (foreign aid)
dose of good news
we could all use a ~

healthy dose
he uses research and a ~ of imagination (writer)

**small doses**
I could only read it in ~ (a book)
provide a dose
recent advances ~ of hope for sufferers

**amount: health & medicine**

**dot (connect the dots)**

connect the dots
I must ~
we couldn't ~ (terrorism)

why didn't we ~
it's impossible to ~ looking forward
people are starting to ~ (climate change)
this report helps us ~ (climate change)

♦ Steve Inskeep: I don't want to connect these dots too firmly yet, Carrie, but I want to note what some of the dots are... What would it mean if these dots were more firmly connected? / Carrie Johnson: I think we're going to need to wait and see... rather than speculate... There's been a lot of bad reporting in this case, we've got to be careful. / Steve Inskeep: But what we do know is those dots are there, and that the Muller investigation continues. / Carrie Johnson: Yes, that's right.” (Vague and ominous dots. From “News Brief: Paul Manafort, Parkland Shooting, Spying Charges,” National Public Radio (NPR), Morning Edition, 14 February 2019.)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture / verb**

**dot (verb)**

dot the lake
floating restaurants ~ (Tonle Sap)

**configuration: mark / verb**

**dotted (arrangement)**

dotted with surveillance) cameras
Times Square is ~
dotted with (observatory) domes
the mountain is ~ (telescopes)
dotted with (small mangrove) islands
a shallow lagoon ~ (Khor al-Beidah)
dotted with (thousands of) kites
the sky is ~ of different colors and styles
dotted with monuments
the area is ~ to him (Lorca)
dotted with the ruins
a valley ~ of 16th-century fortresses (Georgia)
dotted with smokestacks
he looked out on hills ~ (Zarqa)

ice-dotted (m)
~ rivers

monastery-dotted (m)
a beautiful, ~ land (Montenegro)

**configuration: mark**

**double down (verb)**

doubling down on its decision
the government is ~

double-downed our efforts
we ~ to not have it happen again
doubled down (at the White House) and tripled down
the president ~ on Twitter (political dispute)

**commitment & determination: cards / gambling / verb**

**double-edged (sword)**

double-edged sword
opium and its derivatives are a ~
science is a ~ and can be used for good or evil
for Pakistan, success of this kind is a ~ (terrorists)
double-edged sword of biotechnology
the ~ (germ warfare)
feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword
dove (noun)
dove
he is not a ~, but he opposes attacking Iran
violence: animal / bird
dovetail (verb)
dovetails with contemporary anxieties
the film ~ (a zombie movie)
dovetailed with (energy) plans
construction plans have not ~ (China)
dovetail with his (warped) view
he denigrates ideas that don’t ~ of what America should be
configuration: animal / bird / verb
down (feeling)
get me down
it doesn’t ~ (criticism)
feeling, emotion & effect: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
down (decline)
down
it’s a long way ~
down market
a ~ is as much an opportunity as an up one
decline: direction
decline: prep, adv, adj, particle
down (functioning)
down
the system is ~
functioning: direction / mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle
failure, accident & impairment: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
down (down for something)
down for this
are you ~
down for that
if you’re ~, then...
allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
commitment & determination: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
downdraft
downdraft of debt
the hopelessness of families caught in a ~
downdraft in the markets
concern about Europe helped to lead the big ~
economic downdraft
the powerful ~ started with the failure of Lehman
severe downdraft
the fund could be damaged again by a ~ (money)
bucking the downdraft
some candidates are ~ (elections)
caught in the downdraft
media companies have been ~ of advertising revenue
amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind
downfall (noun)
downfall
their greed will be their ~
contributed to his downfall
his protectiveness may have ~
decline / destruction: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
downhearted
downhearted
it made you ~
feeling, emotion & effect: direction / heart
heart: direction
downhill
downhill direction
they are going in a ~ (sports team)
going downhill
education has been ~
goes downhill
the health of children with the disease ~
gone downhill
things have ~ in the last few years (polarized society)
went downhill
their relationship ~
spiraled downhill
at home, he ~ (troubled soldier back from Iraq)
decline: direction / mountains & hills
downplay (verb)
downplay his own gifts
he does not ~, but… (a politician)
downplays the (important) role
this comment ~ that dogs play as sentries
textbook / thesaurus: attention, scrutiny & promotion

downshift (verb)
downshifting
the economy is ~ to stall speed

starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / verb
speed: engine / verb

downside (noun)
downside
modern agriculture has a ~
downside of the electoral college
another ~ is...
downside to 5G
are there any ~ (geo locating, facial recognition, etc.)
big downside
outsourcing has a ~

flaws & lack of flaws: direction / orientation
downstream
downstream business
Chevron's ~ posted profits (refining, marketing)
downstream consequences
depression and PTSD have a number of ~, including suicide
downstream impact
the technology can have a ~ (GM autos)
downstream operations
Chevron will merge its chemical arm with ~
downstream processing
a lot of ~ will be done by China (rare earths)

♦ In the oil business, oil and gas fields are upstream assets, pipelines are midstream, and refineries and retail outlets are downstream.

♦ In the area of health, upstream interventions are things like wireless scales for weighing people, and free rides to medical appointments. These measures are largely preventative in nature and save money in the long run. Downstream outcomes are things like hospitalizations and surgeries.

orientation: river
downturn (noun)
downturn in business
hotels have experienced a 90 percent ~ (war)
economic downturn
the company foundered during the ~
decline: direction
draconian (adjective)
draconian charges
she faces ~, including sedition (Nuttaa Mahattana)
draconian (budget) cuts

he will not give in to ~ (president)
draconian crackdown
he has presided over the most ~ on leaks in US history
draconian justice and rule
many Afghans prefer the ~ meted out by the Taliban

judgment: allusion
oppression: allusion
draft (verb)
drafted into a trade war
they have been ~ that was not of their making (farmers)
eagerness & reluctance: military / verb
commitment & determination: military / verb
coercion & motivation: military / verb

drag (drag on the economy, etc.)
drag on the economy
Brexit uncertainty has been a ~
higher taxes are not necessarily a ~

obstacles & impedance: burden / movement / physics
drag (verb)
dragged her knees through the playoffs
Staley is set to ~ (WNBA)
dragged her butt out of bed
she ~ (teen waking up)
difficulty, easiness & effort: burden / verb
drag (drag somebody into something)
dragged you into this
I shouldn't have ~ (dangerous situation)

involvement: burden / verb
eagerness & reluctance: burden / verb

drag (drag on / out / through)
drag on for a while
this is going to ~ (a controversy)
case dragged on
the ~ without any arrests

negotiations drag on
~ (Brexit)
war drags on
as the ~ (casualties)
drag through Christmas
US shutdown looks set to ~
time: burden / movement
starting, going, continuing & ending: burden
timeliness & lack of timeliness: burden

drag (noun)
dragnet
the largest ~ in American history (Eric Rudolph)
dragnet for the murderer
authorities cast a ~

DNA dragnet
authorities have conducted a ~ (Louisiana serial killer)

international dragnet
authorities cast an ~ for… (accused rapist)

conducted a (DNA) dragnet
authorities have ~ (Louisiana serial killer)

pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish
dragnet (cast a dragnet)
cast a dragnet for the murderer
authorities ~

pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish / verb
dragon (Dragon's Jaw, etc.)

Dragon's Back
the ~ is a ridge in KwaZulu-Natal

Dragon's Jaw
the North Vietnamese called it the ~ (US bridge target)

Dragon Shoal
~ is a reef off Rakine, Myanmar
♦ The Drakensberg is the highest mountain range in South Africa. Its name means, “the Dragon Mountains.”

proper name: creature
drain (verb)

drain spiritual energy from the land
they worry that the drilling will ~ (Medicine Lake area)

drain the Kingdom of $16 billion
expatriates ~ each year (Saudi Arabia)

drained out of him
eventually, the fight ~ (abuser)

drained his finances
what really ~ was the roll-call bribe (Mexico prison)

drained him
his anger seemed to have ~, and he slumped

strength drained away
as their blood thickened and their ~ (climbers)

leaking: verb / water
drain (noun)

economic drain
it's going to be a huge ~ (spending on weapons)

time drain
place limits on TV watching, as it is a great ~

swirling down the drain
the country is ~ (Somalia)

leaking: water
drain (go down the drain, etc.)

swirling down the drain
the country is ~ (Somalia)

failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure
destruction: infrastructure / verb
drained (attenuation)
drained of color
under an overcast sky the prairie looked ~

attenuation: water
drained (feeling)
drained and shaken
1 left feeling ~ (tour of Auschwitz)

physically drained
he was out of oxygen, ~, and alone (climber on Everest)

physically and mentally drained
you're ~ and then, boom…

end up (emotionally) drained
you ~ (search for missing child)

feeling, emotion & effect: container / water
drama (tense drama, etc.)
drama
bring the ~ to an end (mine rescue)
drama of (athletic) competition
choking and the ~
hijack drama
the ~ saw its final act played out (Medina)

hostage drama
one ~ may be over, but…

wildlife drama
a compelling ~ (mountain pond)

life-and-death drama
they watched their own ~ unfold on satellite TV sets
tense drama
a joyous end to a ~ (mine rescue)

end to a (tense) drama
a joyous ~ (mine rescue)

bring the drama to an end
~ (mine rescue)
drama is unfolding
    the US should stay out of the ~ in Egypt (protests)
watched their own drama unfold
    passengers ~ on satellite TV sets (JetBlue Flight)

feeling, emotion & effect: theater
drama (drama queen, etc.)
drama queen
    Nikki is fussy, she's a ~ (sister)
sense of drama
    such a high-flung ~

performance: theater
dramatic (the dramatic)
    flair for the dramatic
        he displayed a ~ (traffic commissioner)

feeling, emotion & effect: theater
dramatic (dramatic child, etc.)
dramatic child
    I was a very ~ (threats, etc.)

performance: theater
    character & personality: theater
    behavior: theater
dramatic (effect)
dramatic action
    this sort of ~ (invasion of Kuwait)

dramatic event
    this ~ (the eruption of a volcano)
    during that season’s ~s (on Mt. Everest)
dramatic (new) evidence
    even in the face of ~

dramatic example
    the dying Aral Sea is the most ~ (ecological damage)
dramatic feature
    Karchner’s most ~ (a cave)
dramatic photograph
    French TV showed a ~ of the plane in flames
dramatic return
    the ~ of this national symbol (the bald eagle)
dramatic turn
    the case took another ~ when… (murder)
dramatic cityscape
    the ~ of steel and lights (Hong Kong)
dramatic turnaround
    in another ~ (football coach's fortunes)

feeling, emotion & effect: theater
dramatic (extent)
dramatic changes
    he can be counted on to make few ~s

dramatic decline
    the ~ in fatality rates (boating)
dramatic improvements
    in the absence of ~ in the fortunes of Nigerians
dramatic increases
    manufacturing has seen ~ in productivity
dramatic results
    the controversial cancer drug didn't produce ~

dramatic (dust) signatures
    rapid movement causes ~

extent & scope: theater
dramatically
    changed dramatically
        the racial makeup of Canarsie ~
declined dramatically
        Lake Chad’s area has ~ since the 1960s

extent & scope: theater
draw (attract)
drawing both praise and scorn
    their efforts are ~

attraction & repulsion: verb
draw (luck of the draw)
luck of the draw
    there is a ~, we are on a wheel (how judges get cases)

fate, fortune & chance: cards / gambling / sports & games
drawbridge (protection)
    their own drawbridges
        countries pulling up ~ (Internet sovereignty)

division & connection: military / fortification
    protection & lack of protection: military / fortification
drawing board (on the drawing board)
on the drawing board
    also ~ is…

growth & development: infrastructure
    creation & transformation: infrastructure
drawing board (other)
going back to the drawing board
    we’re ending the council and ~ (Google ATEAC)

growth & development: infrastructure
    creation & transformation: infrastructure
dream (verb)

dream about
  this is what guys like myself ~ (NFL rookie)
dream of finding
  scientists and capitalists ~ a drug that could…
dreams of returning
  my father ~ to his birthplace in Xinjiang

wants, needs, hopes & goals: sleep / verb

dream (fever dream)

fever dreams about Russian collusion
  they fill their airtime with ~ (MSNBC, CNN, etc.)

fantasy & reality: health & medicine

dream (noun)

dream
  my ~ had been to play in the final… (World Cup)
  our ~ is to save enough to buy a one-family home
  its banking system is still more a ~ than fact (Russia)

dream that
  it was a ~ I never thought would come true (immigrant)
  first the ~, then the doubts, then the commitment

it was his dream to drive
  ~ a bus since he was 9

it was (always) his dream to end up
  ~ in the United States

it had been a dream (of hers) to canoe
  ~ in Algonquin Park

dream of El Dorado
  what local newspapers call "the ~" (jobs in Europe)

dreams of (artistic) greatness
  he had all these ~

dream of hers
  it had been a ~ to canoe in Algonquin Park

dreams of marriage
  their ~ were delayed yet again (Pakistani man, cousin)

dreams of a better tomorrow
  ~ for our children

dreams of holy war
  ~ vanished in the flames (Afghanistan)

dream of attending
  he sacrificed his ~ college to finance his brother's studies

dream of becoming
  it was a jolting blow to his lifelong ~ a fighter pilot

dream of developing
  his ~ a practical turbine-powered car

dreams for the future
  they talked about their own ~ (Wilma Mankiller)

dream car
  they got their ~ for thousands less
  the Suby is a young athlete's ~ (Subaru Outback Limited)

dream (surfing) destination
  Indonesia or other ~s

dream guy
  new dating services guarantee a ~

dream home
  completing his ~

dream house
  he talked of a ~ and a dream car
  on Wednesday, their ~ was destroyed (wildfire)

dream job
  his ~ secured, he is now…
  Notre Dame was his ~ (coach)
  your man tanked the interview for his ~

dream lover
  at a restaurant with my ~
  ~, come rescue me, take me anyway you want me

"dream sheets"
  we were handed ~ (requests for military schools)

dream ship
  a fantastic ~

dream store
  invited her to help him open his ~

dream trip
  this is a ~ (extended canoe trip)

dream vacation
  ~s and weekend getaways

dream wedding
  the fairy-tale star of her ~

dream world
  it was her ~

dream, fantasy, or vision
  the only way to keep a ~ intact or rosy

dream and nightmare
  every surfer's ~ (Condition Black / huge surf)

designer's dream
  her (fashion) show is a ~

everyone's dreams
  ~ are different—like the former pilot who swam…

immigrant's dream
  he had realized the classic ~

kid's dream
  it is most any ~ of the perfect place to eat dinner

laboratory dreams
  these ideas are still ~ (nanotechnology / foods)
skateboarder's dream
20 competitors on a course that's every ~ (street)

Everest dreams
Walter Mittys with ~ need to keep in mind… (climbing)

rock dream
he realized he wouldn't be living the ~

secret dream
the ~ of any woman…

boyhood dream
he fulfilled his ~ of sailing…
for some, ~s come true (an astronaut)

childhood dream
she has realized her ~

lifelong dream
it's an opportunity for him to fulfill a ~
it was a jolting blow to his ~ of becoming a fighter pilot

Pakistani dream
the ~ of a weak Afghanistan under Islamabad's sway

complete dream
it's a ~ (reaching the semifinals of World Cup)

sweet dreams
you hug her and kiss her and wish her ~

age-old (Pakistani) dream
the ~ of a weak Afghanistan under Islamabad's sway

car of my dreams
a tiny red Miata, the ~

man of (your) dreams
find the ~
ask the ~ out on a date

man of her dreams
she had a star-crossed affair with the ~
and then she met the ~

blow to his (lifelong) dream
it was a jolting ~ of becoming a fighter pilot

hopes and dreams
do you have ~ beyond tomorrow morning
his ~ have to do with…
the TV show represented my ~ (Mary Tyler Moore)

plans, hopes, dreams, and ambitions
adults often resent death because it affects ~ (nursing)

potential and dreams
a chance to fulfill their ~ (SuAnn Big Crow Center)

dreams die
~ hard

dream had consumed them
the ~ (climbing K2 together)

dreams come true
I guess ~ (player on tournament victory)
give up those dreams
maybe it's best to ~ (a musician)
give up on my dream
I'm not one to ~ (disappointed "American Idol")
give up on her dream
she doesn't want to ~ of being a "real" professor (adjunct)
allow the dream to die
he wouldn't ~ (an athlete)
take your dreams away
don't let anyone ~
turned the dream into a nightmare
the loans have ~ (home ownership)
make your dreams come true
it will ~ (how-to-kiss book for teens)
make their dreams come true
they feel that they can ~ with hard work and…
make that dream a reality
she can now afford to ~ (an Indian able to buy an AC)
abandoned the dream as preposterous
I ~ (climbing Mt. Everest)

“Each day as I go through the hospitals with younger colleagues, they give me of their dreams and I give them of my experience, and I get the better of the exchange.” (William J. Mayo, M.D.)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: sleep
dredge up (verb)
dredging up old allegations
they are ~
dredge up wild beliefs
they ~ from online fever swamps (a podcast)
dredged up (painful) memories
the fires have ~ of how black churches were razed (arson)
searching & discovery: boat / verb
appearance & disappearance: boat / verb
concealment & lack of concealment: boat / verb

drenched
blood-drenched allegory
the film is a ~
drama-drenched
~ retellings of scorn and mockery (epic sports failures)
neon-drenched
the seedy, ~ combat zone of massage parlors
sun-drenched
in the ~ deserts of California

amount & effect: water
dressed (dressed up, etc.)
dressed up as control

it is curiosity ~ (Netflix and interactive shows)
subterfuge: clothing & accessories
appearance & reality: clothing & accessories
dress up (verb)
dress that up
however you ~, that is the fear
substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories
appearance & reality: clothing & accessories
drift (consciousness)
drifted in and out of (bizarre) hallucinations
he ~ (K2 climber in distress)
drifted in and out of (fitful) sleep
I ~ (high-altitude bivouac)
drifted off
I was exhausted and ~ in short order (went to sleep)
consciousness & awareness: atmosphere / verb
drift (sound)
drifted in
burial music ~ through our windows
drifts outside
music from the choir ~
drifted (in) through our windows
burial music ~
drift across the cuts and trails
they can hear the sound of hammers ~
sound: atmosphere
drift (move)
drifted back
but some laborers have since ~ (to Sichuan)
drift into oblivion
he admitted he would likely ~ (boxer)
drifted into construction work
he ~
drifted (apart) from his parents and siblings
he had ~
drifted from job to job
for the next several years he ~ (famous actor)
drifted through a series of jobs
he then ~
drifted about the country
disdaining regular employment, he ~
drift ing (closer) to towns and cities
most Nukak clans are ~ (Colombia)
movement: atmosphere / wind / verb
drift (control)

drift in the (US) approach
evidence of a ~ in Afghanistan

control & lack of control: atmosphere / wind / boat

drift (drift apart)

drifted apart
we ~ (a relationship)
drifted apart from his parents and siblings
he had ~

division & connection: atmosphere / boat / verb / wind

drill (drill down, etc.)

drill deeper
we need to ~ into their claims (government claims)
drill down	hey can ~ and address the problem (regulators)
drill down into the rankings
it doesn't really make sense, until you ~
drills down (very) deep
she ~ on these issues (a political analyst)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: direction / ground,
terrain & land / verb

drink in (verb)

drank in every (tiny) detail
I ~ of her office
drank in knowledge
he ~ from every person and place he met
drank in the scene
I ~ (a town)
drank in the (stunning) sights
I ~ (a trip abroad)
drank in the vistas
we ~ and toured the pastures

absorption & immersion: food & drink / verb
consumption: food & drink / verb

drip (drip-drip)

drip-drip
this isn’t ~, it’s a flood (sexual harassment)
drip of negative press coverage
the president was not pleased with the continuing ~
drip drip drip of (leaked) emails
the ~ (that hurt Hillary Clinton’s chances)
drip-drip effect
it’s a ~ (online anti-Semitism)
‘drip drip’ effect

the ~ of gender-stereotyping (children)

drip-drip way
virginity had a corrosive effect on my self-esteem, in a ~
(adult)

constant drip-drip-drip
the ~ of stuff (leading to criminal conviction)

steady drip-drip
an increasingly ~ of irritations

steady drip, drip
the ~ of casualties (Iraq)

amount & effect: sound / water
survival, persistence & endurance: water
feeling, emotion & effect: water

drip-fed (verb)
drip-fed to the media
every day leaks are ~
directing: verb / water

drive (verb)
drives the FAA
data, science, and risk analysis ~

driving force: engine / verb
directing: animal / verb

driver (in the driver’s seat)
firmly in the driver’s seat
hip-hop and streetwear are ~ (fashion industry)

puts you in the driver’s seat
a good credit score ~

control & lack of control: engine
driving force: engine

drool (verb)
drooling over the possibility
networks have been ~ of landing an interview with…
makes venture capitalists drool
his pitch ~
eagerness & reluctance: bodily process / food & drink / verb

drop (drop a case, etc.)
dropped (international) coverage
newspapers have ~

let the matter drop
maybe we should ~

♦ "I think it's wrong to pursue this, maybe we should let it drop." (A criminal investigation.)

starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb
drop (product launch)

drop
the “~” is the release of a highly exclusive line
the ~ resulted in pandemonium outside stores (fashion)
lined up for the drop
  a thousand people ~ (pop-up fashion display)

inauguration: mechanism

drop (verb)
dropped
we were promoting the show before it had aired, or ~
♦ “When we were promoting the show before it had aired, or dropped, or whatever they say at Netflix.” (Christina Applegate, showing a wonderful awareness of and perhaps a little exasperation about the language.)

inauguration: mechanism / verb

drop out (verb)
dropped out of the race
he ~ (a politician)
dropped out of the labor force
discouraged job-seekers have ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb

drought (in a drought)
in a sexual drought
I've been ~ for a while
in the middle of a drought
the team is ~ (losing)

progress & lack of progress: weather & climate

drove (herd or flock)
turn out in droves
Democrats predicted minority voters would ~
♦ In the past, men on foot or on horseback often drove livestock over long distances along what were known as drovers’ roads. One such road in western North Carolina was the Buncombe Turnpike along the French Broad River. The drovers drove mainly hogs. Up to 175,000 hogs passed through Asheville each fall. In the southern Appalachians, people would also drive great herds of turkeys, ducks, mules, horses, cows, etc. along the roads. Inns and stands grew up along the route to accommodate both men and animals at night.

behavior: animal
amount: animal
drown (verb)
drowned
I feel like I'm treading water and will soon ~ (teacher)
drowning in a sea
I'm ~ of acronyms (nuclear weapons)
drowning in crime
Detroit is ~

survival, persistence & endurance: verb / water
drown out (verb)
drowned out his (in-ring) interview
  boos ~ (a boxer who won a split decision)
sound: verb / water
superiority & inferiority: verb / water
drowned out
drowned out by the Internet drumbeat
  the explanation is sometimes ~
sound: water
superiority & inferiority: water
drum (beat / bang the drum)
drumbeat
drumbeat of accusations
  there is a ~ (against the Catholic Church / pedophilia)
drumbeat of news
  there has been a steady ~ about the dangerous chemical
drumbeat of war
  the ~ has grown louder in the past few days
drumbeats of war
  the ~ are filling our nation
drumbeat of (terror) warnings
  the recent ~…
drumbeat of "venture capital is dead"
  there has been a ~, and it's getting louder
drumbeat (of calls) for his resignation
  there has been a deafening ~ (a politician)
extremist drumbeat
  militants were encouraged by the ~ in Cairo
defeasing drumbeat
  there has been a ~ of calls for his resignation (politician)
drumbeats (of war) are filling our nation
  the ~
drumbeat of war has grown louder
  the ~ in the past few days
Internet drumbeat
  the explanation is sometimes drowned out by the ~
drumbeat is intensifying
  the ~ to toughen up laws regarding sexual predators

message: military / sound
attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / verb
drummed out

drummed out of the party
he has been ~ (politics)

dismissal, removal & resignation: military

**drum up (verb)**

drum up (public) demand
he is trying to ~ for his invention

drum up support
we are trying to ~ for the project
they are trying to ~ for the law

creation & transformation: sound / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / verb
allegiance, support & betrayal: sound / verb

**drunk (adjective)**

drunk on power
he is ~

restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol
control & lack of control: alcohol
behavior: alcohol
feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol

**dry (come up dry)**

come up dry on leads
we have ~ (thefts of goats)

♦ This refers to a well that fails to produce water or oil.

success & failure: water

**dry run**

dry run for the All-Star Game
the stadium manager says the game will be a ~

dry run of the course
participants registered for a ~ (race with obstacles)

made a dry run
he ~ in a wind tunnel (parachutist)

arranged for a dry run
he ~ to make sure everything worked (technology)

♦ There are quite a few theories for the origin of this relatively recently coined phrase. One idea is that it relates to drills by fire departments without water being pumped. It came to prominence in the military during World War II.

readiness & preparedness: military

**dry up (verb)**

money dried up
the ~

overtime has dried up
~ (for immigrant workers)

work dried up
other ~, and old friends stopped calling (disgraced)

appearance & disappearance: water / verb

duck (avoid)

ducked out of the (post-race) interview
he ~ (auto racing)

duck the (tough) issues
we won’t ~ (a politician)

ducked the question
he ~ (State Department "official")

duck (the more challenging) questions
he hoped the court would not ~

avoidance & separation: animal / bird / verb

duck (verb)

ducked into the office
she ~ right away to see what was up
duck into a bathroom
the young women ~ to change out of their jeans

movement: animal / bird

**dud (noun)**

dud
the product was a ~ (marketing)
dud of a book
this disappointing ~ starts with a good premise

success & failure: weapon / explosion
failure, accident & impairment: weapon / explosion

duel (noun)

tense duel
the two were locked in a ~ for days (Tour de France)

pair up for duels
with the city's blessing, cars ~ (legal drag racing)

competition / conflict: weapon
dueling (adjective)

dueling ad
~s, each side accusing the other (politics)
dueling protests
we are expecting ~ today (pro- and anti-government)

competition / conflict: weapon
dug in
dug in
we will weed out the rebels, but they are ~
both sides are ~ and neither side will move (politics)

protection & lack of protection: ground, terrain & land
dull (adjective)
grow dull
his life reminds us that the cutting edge can ~ (Hefner)

**flaws & lack of flaws: blade / knife**

**dumb (technology)**

dumb mines
  ~ versus smart mines (self-destruct / self-deactivate)

from dumb to smart to brilliant (m)
  ~ bombs (military)

**knowledge & intelligence: mechanism**

**ability & lack of ability: mechanism**

**dump (verb)**

dumped the editor
  she ~ and replaced him with… (magazine)

dump her (3,928) shares
  he told her to ~ (of stock)

dumped her stock
  just before she ~ in December… (insider trading)

dump you
  she's going to ~ (get out of the relationship)

**dismissal, removal & resignation: pile / verb**

**dumped**

dumped
  she worries about being ~ and getting a bad reputation

dumped Gottlieb for Brown
  five year later, he ~ (editor / editors in chief)

dumped by him
  you may get ~ later (relationship)

dumped by his girlfriend
  he was ~ of nine years…

get dumped
  you may ~ by him later… (relationships)
  most men who ~ think their girlfriends…

**dismissal, removal & resignation: pile**

**dust (dust settles)**

let the dust settle
  we will ~ and then make our decisions

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: ground, terrain & land**

**dust (collect dust)**

collect dust
  the case was left to ~

**action, inaction & delay: ground, terrain & land / verb**

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ground, terrain & land / verb

**dust (bite the dust)**

bit the dust
  many of these mom-and-pop stores ~ (failed)

destined to bite the dust
  the project seems ~ (military project)

  ♦ This refers to old Western films in which cowboys, Indians and soldiers are shot off their horses and fall into the dust.

**euphemism: death & life / verb**

failure, accident & impairment: film

**dust (leave somebody in the dust)**

left Microsoft in the dust
  the iPhone and Android ~ (phones)

**competition: direction / sports & games**

**dust (fairy dust, etc.)**

blockchain dust
  it’s not like you sprinkle ~ over it and it’s O.K.

fuck-you-up dust
  when the bad fairy comes and sprinkles the ~

**amelioration & renewal: magic**

**dustbin (noun)**

dustbin of history
  the Afghans will send the Americans to the ~ (Taliban)
  the P-word should be consigned to the ~ (Britain)

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: waste**

**dwarf (size)**

dwarf chameleon
  Madagascar has produced a group of ~s

dwarf pine
  at high elevation, one finds many ~s

**size: person**

**dwarf (verb)**

dwarfed all others
  the Yankees' payroll ~ (baseball)

dwarfs any other (economic) relationship
  the US / EU partnership ~

dwarfs (all other) threats
  an Iranian bomb ~ to Israel

dwarf his other work
  the study is likely to ~ in statistics

dwarfs previous ones
  the current oil spill ~ (Gulf of Mexico)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: height / verb**

superiority & inferiority: height / verb
dyed-in-the-wool

dyed-in-the-wool optimist
she's a ~

Identity & nature: cloth

dying (dying industry, etc.)
dying breed
he is the last of a ~ (race car driver)
moderates are a ~ (politics)
dying industry
nuclear energy may be a ~

Starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life
decline: death & life
Primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life
dynamite (noun)
dynamite for the (party’s) base
what he said is ~ (weird Joe Biden gaffe / faux-pau)

Initiation: explosion
dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.)
dynasty
it’s history, we like ~s, to cheer for and against them (sports)
fallen dynasty
he rescued a ~ (Larry Bird and the Boston Celtics)
built a dynasty
they had ~ that had won three Super Bowl championships

Power / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty

E

eagle eye
eagle eyes of (U.S. spy) satellites
the ~

Surveillance: animal / bird / eye
ear (Ear of the Wind, etc.)
Ear of the Wind
the ~ is a natural arch in Monument Valley, Arizona

Proper name: ear
ear (have somebody’s ear)
has the ear of the president
he ~

Attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear

Sympathetic ear
he offers a ~ to kids (juvenile offenders)
lent an ear
Michael unselfishly ~ to friends in need

Offers a (sympathetic) ear
he ~ to kids (juvenile offenders)

Attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear

Ear (surveillance)
ears and eyes
the NSA, Uncle Sam’s ~ in the sky
The walls have ears!

Surveillance: ear
ear (ear of corn, etc.)
ears of corn
women roasted ~ (Kisumu)
sun’s ears
polar explorers call the circles of prismatic colors the ~

Resemblance: ear
ear (fall on deaf ears)
fall on deaf ears
calls to end the fighting that seem to ~ (Middle East)
sometimes the warnings ~
fell on deaf ears
his warnings ~ (Gerhart Riegner / Holocaust)
his call for lifting sanctions ~ (a politician)
complaint after complaint ~
falling on deaf ears
the appeals are ~ (Russia)

Consciousness & awareness: ear
ear (turn a deaf ear)
turned a deaf ear to that argument
Congress has ~

Confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ear
ear (early timeliness)
early in the (democratic presidential primary) process
it’s still very ~

Timeliness & lack of timeliness: day
ear (extent)
ends of the earth
he took the faith of his nation to the ~ (Livingstone)
scooped the Earth
Bill Whitman ~ for rare fruit (collector, popularizer)

Extent & scope: earth & world
searching & discovery: earth & world
earthiness (character)
earthiness
her public persona belies her ~ (she swears, etc.)
character & personality: earth & world
earthquake (effect)
earthquake
his death was an ~ that shook the world (Osama)
cultural earthquake
a massive ~ split the country wide open (US / 1960s)
political earthquake
I think it's going to be a ~ (elections)
♦ People speak of social ferment in countries with a huge base of young people as "youthquakes."
♦ "A sense of insecurity, as during an earthquake, pervaded the minds of men." (Lord Jim by Joseph Conrad.)
♦ "The shocks continued at intervals of half an hour or an hour all night, just strong enough to wake me thoroughly each time and keep me on the alert ready to jump up in case of danger. I was therefore very glad when morning came. Most of the inhabitants had not been to bed at all, and some had stayed out of doors all night. For the next two days and nights shocks still continued at short intervals, and several times a day for a week, showing that there was some very extensive disturbance beneath our portion of the earth's crust. How vast the forces at work really are can only be properly appreciated when, after feeling their effects, we look abroad over the wide expanse of hill and valley, plain and mountain, and thus realize in a slight degree the immense mass of matter heaved and shaken. The sensation produced by an earthquake is never to be forgotten. We feel ourselves in the grasp of a power to which the wildest fury of the winds and waves are as nothing; yet the effect is more a thrill of awe than the terror which the mere boisterous war of the elements produces. There is a mystery and an uncertainty as to the amount of danger we incur, which gives greater play to the imagination, and to the influences of hope and fear. These remarks apply only to a moderate earth-quake. A severe one is the most destructive and the most horrible catastrophe to which human beings can be exposed." (The Malay Archipelago by Alfred Russel Wallace.)
disruption: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land
effect: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land
equilibrium & stability: earthquake / ground, terrain & land
feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land
earthshaking (adjective)
earthshaking experiment
the ~ has rocked the scientific community
earth-shaking transformation
China economy has experienced ~s in recent decades
extent & scope: earthquake / ground, terrain & land
amount & effect: earthquake / ground, terrain & land
equilibrium & stability: earthquake / ground, terrain & land
easygoing
easy-going attitude
Atlanta's ~ toward skin and vice
easygoing personality
he has one of those ~s
easygoing country boy
an ~ from Kentucky
good-natured and easygoing
elephants are ~ (according to keeper at zoo)
character & personality: journeys & trips
eat (destroy)
eat their own
“SWOs ~” is a common Navy refrain (jealousy)
eating away the banks
the current is ~ of the river
ate away at me
it ~ (an unpleasant truth)
eat away at you
secrets ~
eaten away at me
it would have ~ (not confronting his brother)
eat away at America's sense of security
the sniper attacks ~ (D.C. area)
eat through the (plastic) sheeting
the chlorine will ~
eat into the flesh
necrotic ulcers are deep, open wounds that ~
eat up your mind
meth will ~ (methamphetamine addiction)
eat you up
playing such a demanding role could ~ (Tina Turner)
eat him up
this will ~ bad (boxing champ loses in shock defeat)
eating him up
he kept quiet, but it was ~ (sexually assaulted)
eat you alive
that darkness will ~ (journalist investigates sex crimes)
eaten your soul
and then you are lost, he has ~ (accommodating a boss)
feeling, emotion & effect: animal / predation / verb
destruction: animal / food & drink / predation / verb
affliction: animal / food & drink / predation / verb
eat (consume)
eating up (so much) bandwidth
the number of attacks is ~ that…
eating up the mist
the sun was ~ (Lord Jim)
ate up $5 billion
the program ~
eat only sorrow and misery
I ~ (a Kurdish expression)
eat the sun
plants essentially ~ (photosynthesis)
eat those words
I'll make you ~ (competition)
ate it up
the crowd ~ (a campaign speech well received)
eat and breathe
these guys ~ cycling (Giro d'Italia)
  ♦ "If it means swallowing some humble pie, and it means eating some of
your words, I can't think of a more excellent diet." (Prime Minister David
Cameron, on his coalition government formed with the Liberal
Democrats.)
consumption: food & drink / verb
eaten alive
eaten alive by debt
I was ~
get eaten alive
don't ~ by debt (an advertisement)
feeling, emotion & effect: animal / food & drink / predation
destruction: animal / food & drink / predation
Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.)
  "Eaton of Africa"
  the so-called ~ (Kamuzu Academy in Malawi)
education: epithet / military / school & education
epithet: school & education
ebb (decline)
ebb and flow
gang killings ~ but never stop (Los Angeles)
ebb and flows
the number of cases ~ (West Nile virus in US)
fighting ebbed
the ~ Tuesday (Ubaydi)
decline: sea / tide / verb
ebb (at a low ebb)
at a low ebb
the militant's fortunes in Iraq are ~
decline: sea / tide
ebb (on the ebb)
on the ebb
his racing career is ~
decline: sea / tide
ebb (movement)
ebb and flow of passengers
the ~ through the car doors and turnstiles (D.C. metro)
movement: sea / tide
ebb (development)
ebb and flow of the war
the ~ (Angola)
development: sea / tide
echo (verb / effect)
echo and echo and echo
war and trauma can just ~ (lack of closure)
echoes (now) through every talk show
the bitter debate that ~ and coffee shop
feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb
repetition: sound / verb
echo (noun / effect)
echo of this vote
the ~ will be loud and long (anti-Hispanic vote)
feeling, emotion & effect: sound
echo (repeat)
echo what
first, let me ~ the President said (speeches)
echoed Templeton
the State's Attorney Joe Hettel ~... (opinion)
echoes allegations
the report ~ that the company...
echoed the (the teacher's) statement
many school employees ~ that...
echoes the style
the painting closely ~ of his friend Henri Matisse
repetition: sound / verb
transmission: sound / verb
echo (in an echo)
in an echo of (the president's) position
~, Michael Chukwu told BBC that....
repetition: sound
echo chamber
echo chamber
it's an ~where lost souls talk up and amp up one another
media echo chamber
their views are amplified by the ~ (stock analysts, etc.)
online political echo chambers
~ have exacerbated America’s divisions
social media echo chamber
another example of the ~ that amplifies all offence
repetition / transmission: sound
echoed

echoed by NASA
  Boeing’s conclusion was ~ in its mission reports

echoed by (many) Central Asians
  her view is ~

echoed by (many) Americans
  that sense of patriotic pride is ~

echoed by others
  such criticisms have been ~ who...

echoed by (numerous) others
  comments ~... (protestors)

echoed in academic circles
  you raise a good point that has been ~

view is echoed
  his ~ by many Central Asians

repetition / transmission: sound

eclipse (verb)
eclipsed fishing as (the state’s major) revenue source
  mining long ago ~ (Nauru)
eclipses (all) others
  in Havana, one feature ~ of the city (the Malecon)
eclipsing the feudal landowners
  the middle class is finally ~
eclipse electric tanning beds
  some predict sunless tanning booths could ~
superiority & inferiority: astronomy / light & dark / moon / shadow / sun / verb
  primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / moon / sun / verb
decline: astronomy / moon / sun / verb
  attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / shadow / verb

eclipse (noun)
eclipse of Cantonese
  older people affected by the ~ in China and the world
driven the German shepherd into eclipse
  overbreeding has ~ (the dog breed)
superiority & inferiority: astronomy / light & dark / moon / shadow/ sun
  primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / moon / sun
  attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / shadow
ecosystem (noun)
ecosystem of corruption
  he exposed an ~ at the bank
ecosystem of hate
  far-right parties fan an ~ (Australia)
ecosystem of people
  there is an ~ who serve professional athletes
ecosystem of support
  designers rely on a complex ~ (garment district)
ecosystem of entrepreneurs, engineers, investors
  the ~ and other players is growing (NYC tech scene)
business ecosystem
  smart executives cannot control but can influence the ~
disinformation ecosystem
  Facebook banned a significant chunk of the ~ (in the Philippines)
Internet ecosystem
  this regulation will do damage to the ~
innovation ecosystem
  many factors created the ~ to nurture the Internet
media ecosystem
  a conservative ~ helps amplify those ideas (alt-right)
Y.A. ecosystem
  some readers don’t care about the politics of the ~ (books)
closed ecosystem
  can the iPhone thrive in Apple’s ~
self-correcting ecosystem
  the Internet is a ~ (controversy)
commercial ecosystem
  the garment district is a ~
financial ecosystem
  he benefited from the burgeoning ~ (NYC)
fragile and interconnected ecosystem
  this ~ (garment district)
global social-media ecosystem
  the alt-right has turbocharged this ~ of hatred
area / biodiversity / environment: ground, terrain & land
edge (over the edge)
over the edge
  in my opinion, this is ~ (a controversial song)
behavior: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
edge (push something over the edge)
pushed some farmers over the edge
  drought has ~
push them over the edge
  just a tiny temperature rise can ~ (coral bleaching)
destruction: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
edge (on edge)
on edge
the city is ~ (a series of murders)
everybody was ~ (serial bomber on the loose)

already on edge
the news terrified women ~ (murders of lesbians)

feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability

edge (on the edge)
on the edge of collapse
the air travel network teeters ~ (Unfriendly Skies)
on the edge of extinction
they're ~ (orangutans)
on the edge of a (nervous) breakdown
I'm ~
lived on the edge
he ~ (Timothy Treadwell)
teeters on the edge
the air travel network ~ of collapse

♦ On the edge for you is the middle of the road for me.” (Bumper sticker on snowboarder’s car.)

proximity: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

edge (at the edge)
at the (extreme) edge of complexity
this is ~ (a brain operation)
at the edge of starvation
meager harvests leave millions ~ (Africa)

proximity: blade
edge (lose one’s edge)

losing his edge
some observers think he may be ~ (chess grandmaster)

ability & lack of ability: blade / knife
flaws & lack of flaws: blade / knife

edge (rough edges, etc.)
smooth (capitalism’s) rough edges
her policies aim to ~ (a progressive)

flaws & lack of flaws: hardness & softness / manufacturing

edifice (noun)
edifice of (city and state) finance
much of the ~ is jury-rigged
edifice of the state
the ~ is in danger of crumbling
"climate science" edifice
the whole ~ is exposed and will collapse (opinion)
imperial edifice
the bureaucracy is an ~ built on feudal foundations

once-impregnable edifice
the ~ of the regime's authority is starting to crumble
meticulously built edifice
science is a ~
cracks in the edifice
early ~ appeared in the 1990s (economy)
edifice could collapse
and so the whole ~ (economy)
edifice would crumble
the ~ if…
bring down the (whole) edifice
any crack in the system would ~ (dictatorship)
tear down the edifice
the right has used religion to ~ and secular morality
chipping away at the edifice
lawyers are ~ of person responsibility (neuroscience)

bases: house

Edison (Thomas Alva)

Edison of the Internet
Bill Joy is sometimes called the ~
creation & transformation: epithet

egg (put all one’s eggs in a basket, etc.)

put a lot of eggs in this basket
the president has ~ (support of Saudi Arabia)
allegiance, support & betrayal: food & drink
commitment & determination: food & drink

eggshell (noun)

eggshell of trust
it shatters the ~ (Pilots Union vs. Boeing)
strength & weakness: animal / bird / materials & substances

eggshell (walking on eggshells)

walking on eggshells
for over 10 years, I spent every day ~ (domestic abuse)
I was ~ (interviewing Malala Yousafzai)

feeling, emotion & effect: animal / bird / materials & substances

elastic

elastic definition
this ~ (of harassment)
elastic term
the word is an ~ (for nomads and pastoralists)
constraint & lack of constraint: materials & substances
elbow (force)

elbowed him out
the company ~
elbowed him aside
she ~ (politics)
elbowed aside its competitors
the company has ~
elbowed her way into the (heavily male) club
she ~ (profession)
elbowed into the lineup
women have ~ on the North Shore (surfing)

force: arm / verb

elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)

Elbow Lake
we visited ~ (Becker County)

Elbow Cay
we sailed to ~ (Bahamas)

Elbow Point
~ is a point in Quezon, Philippines

proper name: arm

elbow (shape)

elbows
~ can change the direction of piping

shape: arm

El Dorado

new El Dorados
the traffickers that service them flock to the ~ (oil and gas workers)
dream of El Dorado
what local newspapers call "the ~" (jobs in Europe)

fantasy & reality: allusion / history

wants, needs, hopes & goals: allusion / history

electric (feeling)

electric
at the opening of the trial, the atmosphere was ~
electric performance
despite another ~ from Mia Hamm (soccer)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity

electrify (verb)

electrified (many) people
she ~ (a politician at a convention)
electrified the region

tunisia's uprising ~ (2011)
electrified the movie world
he ~ with the Sixth Sense (movie director)
electrified by the rise
they were ~ of Trump

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / verb

electrifying

electrifying
flamenco is ~
electrifying in victory
he was ~ (sports)
electrifying best
he was at his ~ (an athlete)
electrifying and polarizing
he has been both ~ (a union leader)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity

elephant (elephant in the room, etc.)

elephant in the pew
pornography is the ~ (Christians addicted to porn)
elephant in the room
nobody wants to see the ~
one ~ no one wants to discuss is…
this is the ~ that nobody is talking about
the condition of these banks has been the ~ (future of EU)

see the elephant
nobody wants to ~

substance & lack of substance: animal

elevate (verb)

elevate rap from a fad to an art form
he helped ~ (Tupac Shakur)

achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height / verb

elevated (level)

elevated level
~s of testosterone (sports)
elevated blood pressure
a pregnant patient with abnormally ~
severe, high, elevated, guarded, low >
(terror alert system)

increase & decrease: direction

elevation (noun)

his elevation
a press release announced ~ (publishing company)

achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height
elf (Elves Chamber, etc.)

Elves Chamber
the ~ contains calcite formations (Marvel Cave)

proper name: creature

Ellis Island (epithet)

Ellis Island of the black migration
the Illinois Central station, the ~ to Chicago
Ellis Island of the Southwest
El Paso is often referred to as the ~
migration: epithet / island / place

embrace (verb)

embraced the cause
he ~ (reparations for US slavery)

embrace democracy
if Palestinians ~, confront corruption and reject terror

embrace the future
a split over whether to preserve the past or ~ (Swazis)
we must ~ (trade and business issue)

embraced globalization
two nations that have ~ (Chile, Mexico)

embraced its image
the company has ~ (Starbucks)

embrace Soviet imports
the young began to ~, including vodka (Inuit)

embraced Islam
I recently ~ and this is my first Haj

embraced it
every supervisor has ~ or paid lip service to it (change)

embraced (for itself) the legacy
Gazprom has ~ of Peter the Great (skyscraper)

embrace reform
he urged Wall Street to ~ (Obama)

embracing the role
Alabama is ~ of the favorite (football)
he ~ of provocateur (a writer)

embracing (palliative care) specialists
more doctors are ~ as partners

embraced his (Internet) strategy
still, investors have not ~

embrace (new) technology
schools are among the first to ~ (surveillance)

embrace (an uncomfortable) truth
we must ~ (US corrections)

embraces change and innovation
he ~ (a high-school principal)

emplaced the blog world
some restaurants have ~ (instant marketing)

embrace the gift of science
we ~, which is a gift from God (Jews / reproduction)

embraced by Hollywood
he has been ~ (a writer)

embraced by the masses
that kind of message isn't going to be ~

embraced by physicians
until the 1960s, that approach was ~

embraced by (some) teenagers
surveillance is not only accepted but also ~
embraced by thrill seekers and martial-arts adepts
parkour has been ~
embrace nor reject
he will neither ~ another quest for the presidency (Gore)
reluctance to embrace
America’s ~ the metric system
came to embrace
I ~ multiple identities (a man from Lebanon)

**acceptance & rejection: arm / verb**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: arm / verb**

**attachment: arm / verb**

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

**division & connection: arm / verb**

embraced

**acceptance & rejection: arm**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: arm**

**attachment: arm**

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

**division & connection: arm**

embraced

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

embroider (verb)

embroiders the truth
he sometimes ~ (a politician)

**creation & transformation: cloth / verb**

embryonic

embryonic European Common Market
he refused to join the ~ (Churchill)

**growth & development: biology / birth**

emerge (verb)

emerging
a new world is ~ (nationalism)
emerged that
it ~ she had…
emerged from the ashes
the League ~ of World War I emerge from the (revolutionary) cauldron
many ~ to become conservatives
emerged from a turbulent childhood
he ~ emotionally brittle
emerge from the cocoon
he began to ~ of sorrow, rage and despair that had enveloped him
emerged as a (top talent) incubator
the art gallery has ~ (Damascus)
emerged as a pathology

Nazism ~ of an inflation-wrecked country
emerge from his brother’s shadow
he was desperate to ~ (Mike Quarry)
emerges early
empathy, the key emotion, ~

patterns emerge
~ (VICAP cold-cases investigations)

picture emerged
a different ~ of the risks…
portrait emerges
a Jekyll and Hyde ~ of SEAL accused of murder

**appearance & disappearance: verb / water**

emerging (adjective)

emerging artists
he had been in Singapore, to meet ~ (a curator)

emerging technology
she is an expert in human behavior and ~

**appearance & disappearance: water**

emperor (Exmoor Emperor, etc.)
Exmoor Emperor
the giant red stag known as the ~

**proper name: royalty**

empire (enterprise)

empire in the Caribbean
he built a drug-trafficking ~

family's (business) empire
his place in the ~

banana empire
the fourth biggest ~ in the world (Noboa / Ecuador)

business empire
his place in the family's ~

cocaine empire
he helped run a $1 billion ~ (Colombia)

construction empire
his late father's ~

department store empire
Marshall Field's ~

nationwide (freight-hauling) empire
Johnnie B. Hunt, who built a ~

gambling empire
police uncovered a ~ (video poker)

publishing empire
its vast ~

drug-trafficking empire
he built a ~ in the Caribbean
freight-hauling empire
  Johnnie B. Hunt, who built a nationwide ~

criminal empire
  he runs a ~ from his Italian restaurant in Queens

vast (publishing) empire
  its ~

$1 billion (cocaine) empire
  he helped run a ~ (Colombia)

place in the (family's business) empire
  his ~

built a (nationwide empire
  Johnnie B. Hunt, who ~ (freight-hauling / trucks)

built a (drug-trafficking) empire
  he ~ in the Caribbean

dismantled an empire
  changes since Ferguson effectively ~ (Man U failures)

definition: history

emptiness (depression)
emptiness
  something in me broke and I felt nothing except ~

feeling, emotion & effect: container / mental health
empty (depression)
empty inside
  catching her kill won’t change anything, I’m just ~ (mother)

feeling, emotion & effect: container / mental health
empty (adjective)
empty promise
  for laid-off workers, ~s of new jobs (US)
  she got so many powerful people to believe in an ~

empty threat
  such talk no longer passes as an ~ (school massacres)

vague or empty (m)
  ~ threats are worse than useless (school discipline)

substance & lack of substance: air / atmosphere
empty-handed
empty-handed
  she departed ~
  people leave the video store ~
  Liverpool will finish this season ~ (overtaken by Man City)

attainment / possession: hand
encore
encore
  what would she do as an ~ (fashion designer)

encore career
  older workers embark on ~s

many ~s build on work and life experiences

enjoying an encore
  the U-2 spy plane is ~

bring them back for an encore
  we don’t want to ~ (politicians)

♦ Nowadays, concertgoers may be offered a chance to choose the encore by text message, using their cellphones. Not everyone thinks this is a good idea.

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: theater

encounter (difficulties, etc.)

encounter bumps
  many families ~ in the road to toilet training

encounter the “honeymoon shocker”
  couples who ~ (a snoring spouse)

fiction meeting & seeing: verb

encyclopedia (noun)
encyclopedia of (cheating) tips
  he is an ~

knowledge & intelligence: books & reading

encyclopedic (adjective)
encyclopedic in breadth
  the book is ~

encyclopedic knowledge
  he had an ~ of theater songs (composer)
  she has an ~ of criminal law

encyclopedic museum
  ~s have huge, permanent collections

knowledge & intelligence: books & reading
end (go off the deep end)

go off the deep end
  she might ~ (sex)

went off the deep end
  she ~

involvement: water
restraint & lack of restraint: water / verb
behavior: water / verb
end (deep end)
deep end
  she was thrown in the ~

involvement: water
end (no end in sight)

no end in sight
  there is ~

no end in sight for the (government) shutdown
  there is ~
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: journeys & trips
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips
end (the end)

the end of it
but that was not ~ (a religious affair)

starting, going, continuing & ending: orientation

endemic (adj)
endemic (drug) violence and corruption
he condemned the country's ~

affliction: health & medicine
extent & scope: health & medicine

endgame
end game
what's the ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

endgame to our involvement
an ~ in Afghanistan

endgame (to our involvement) in Afghanistan
an ~

uncertain endgame
Iran is a factor in the ~ in Afghanistan (diplomacy)

strategy: chess

end run (noun)

end round around the Vacancies Act
this seems to be an ~ (politics)

end run around the union
union leaders have denounced the plan as an ~

end run around the public’s wishes
liberals are pursuing ~ (politics)

avoidance & separation: direction / football / movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / football / movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping

obstacles & impedance: direction / football / movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping

strategy: direction / football / movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping

subterfuge: direction / football / movement / sports & games / walking, running & jumping

enemy (conflict)

enemy
time is always the most formidable ~ in an epidemic
the Fitzgerald was now at war, the ~ the sea (sinking)
enemies of action
politeness and diplomacy are often the ~
enemy number one
~ is the sun (skin cancer)

hidden enemy
landmines, the ~

♦ “The enemy stands 602 feet tall and weighs 15 million tons.” (Shasta Dam versus the Winnemen Wintu group, which is opposed to making the dam higher.)

conflict: military

engine (driving force)

engine of growth
Punjab is the ~ for Pakistan

engine of prosperity
Harlem could be an ~

engine of (upward) mobility
education was the most reliable ~ (blacks)

engine for prosperity
the US economy is a fantastic ~

economic engine
biotechnology could be the state's new ~

driving force: engine

engineered

engineered by the ETA
the explosion was ~ (terrorism)

creation & transformation: infrastructure

engraved (impression)

engraved in my heart
your faces are ~

impression: mark / tools & technology

enmeshed

enmeshed in corruption
he is ~

involvement: rope
situation: rope

enshrine (verb)

enshrines (beach) access for all
the act ~ (California)
enshrine (very particular) ideologies
rankings ~ (of colleges, etc.)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion / verb

reverence: religion / verb

enshrined

enshrined in the Constitution
a common misperception is that this principle is ~
enshrined in the first amendment
the right to freedom of speech is ~ of the US constitution

enshrined in law
the right to maternity leave is now ~ (Switzerland)
enshrined in textbooks
false claims have been ~ (medicine)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
reverence: religion

ensnare (verb)
ensnared dozens of executives
the scandal has ~
ensnared scores of investors
his scam lasted for years and ~
ensnared them
their own greed ~

involvement: hunting / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb

ensnared
ensnared in the downturn
Seattle has been ~ (economy)
ensnared in the inquiry
he has been ~ (politics)
ensnared in a (public-relations) nightmare
he wound up ~
ensnared in legal proceedings
he spent a huge amount of time ~
ensnared in the scandal
he was ~ (a lobbyist)
ensnared in a love triangle
she was ~
ensnared by blood feuds
thousands of innocents have been ~ (Albania)
ensnared by a traffic jam
I was ~ on my way to work
ensnared by the investigation
he is the most prominent executive to be ~
ensnared by a (bizarre online extortion) plot
he was ~ (catfished)
became ensnared
he ~ in a tax inquiry
found himself ensnared
he has ~ in allegation of corruption

involvement: hunting
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb

entangled (involvement)
entangled in history
to live in Moscow is to be ~
entangled in the probe
another associate of the President has become ~
involvement / situation: rope
the race often ~ (Giro d'Italia death in 2011)
push the envelope on what
ey they are trying to ~ is possible… (Google)

This expression originated with test pilots and flying.
restraint & lack of restraint: plane / verb
constraint & lack of constraint: plane / verb

envision (verb)
envisioned the end
it was not how he ~ of his character (TV show)

consciousness & awareness: eye / verb

epic
eto a climber, "~" means "near total disaster"
epic battle
their ~ for championship crowns (sports)
hooked makos diving into boats during ~s with anglers
their ~ Saturday night (Micky Ward vs. Arturo Gatti)
epic bout
wondering if an ~ was in store (boxing)
epic chronicle
Robert Caro's ~ of the life and times of Lyndon Johnson
epic confrontation
the expedition was not supposed to be an ~ with death

Epic Conquest
"East of the Sun, the ~ and Tragic History of Siberia"
epic day
this was an ~ (satisfied motorcyclist)
tales of an ~ at Waimea Bay (surfing)
epic failure
he stands at the precipice of ~ (politician)
epic game
its ~ against the Soviets (hockey)
Syracuse won an ~ (6 overtimes)
epic party
remembering swells and ~s (surfing milieu)
epic rivalry
Muhammad Ali's ~ with Joe Frazier (boxers)
epic scale
the ~, and epic inefficiency, of China's coal economy
epic (playoff) series
O'Neal wouldn't allow this ~ to end early (NBA)
epic terms
Mendes saw the material in larger, ~ (comic books)
epic (surf) wave
an ~ had formed over Brookmont Dam (kayaking)
epic breakout
the Marines' ~ from Chosin (Korean War)

Everest epic
accounts of the 1963 ~ resonated loud and long
gangster epic
this grandly stylized ~ (John Woo / A better Tomorrow)

superlative: Iliad & Odyssey
epicenter
epicenter of that battle
Birmingham became the ~ (for civil rights)
epicenter of the disease
in Nigeria, the ~ in Africa (polio)
epicenter of the (new) disease
New York City, the ~ (AIDS)
epicenter of the epidemic
Gorakhpur, the ~ (Japanese encephalitis)
epicenter of youth culture
the ~ (Shimokitazawa in Tokyo)
riot's epicenter
South-Central, the ~ (LA)

location: earthquake
epidemic
epidemic
amid that ~, one single infection was fateful (NotPetya)
epidemic of crack
the neighborhood is recovering from an ~
epidemic of fear
an ~ has spread over about 130 villages (black magic)
epidemic of piracy
there has been an ~ off the coast of Somalia
epidemic of violence
an ~ which is rapidly spreading
there's an ~ that is sickening the soul of this nation
epidemic proportions
underage drinking has reached ~
crack epidemic
the nineteen-eighties issued in the ~
cheating epidemic
some blame schools for the ~
hidden epidemic
sex trafficking is a ~ (US)
stem the epidemic
we have done nothing to ~ of violence
verge on an epidemic
mental health problems that ~ (colleges)

affliction: health & medicine
extent & scope: health & medicine
amount & effect: health & medicine
equilibrium (noun)
emotional equilibrium
trolls try to disrupt your ~/ (Internet)
equilibrium & stability: scale
erase (verb)
erase his past
  he would like to ~/ (a gang member)
erase the event from his life
  he tried to ~/ (sexually assaulted)
concealment & lack of concealment: verb / writing & spelling
dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / writing & spelling
erased
erased from public discourse
  this moment in history has been all but ~
concealment & lack of concealment: writing & spelling / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / writing & spelling
erode (verb)
eroded
  America’s military superiority has ~/ to a dangerous degree
erode (“traditional”) beliefs
  modernization need not ~/ in the supernatural (sangomas)
erodes (social) cohesiveness
  an epidemic ~/ ero
erode confidence
  corrections and retractions ~/ in science (journals)
eroded (public) confidence
  the accident has ~/ in aviation safety
eroded their (political, spiritual and cultural) power
  British policies further ~/ (Maasai)
erodes the (moral) underpinnings
  capitalism ~/ of society
erode (indigenous) Tibetan culture
  critics fear the railroad will ~/ confidence (in him) has eroded
  public ~/ markedly (leader of country)
grip (on this country) may be eroding
  the king’s ~/ threaten to erode
  divisions ~/ France’s tradition of equality (Muslims)
derect: erosion ~/ verb
failure, accident & impairment: erosion ~/ verb
eroding
eroding (ring) skills
questions about his ~/ (Mike Tyson, the boxer)
decline: erosion
failure, accident & impairment: erosion
erosion
erosion of (intelligence) assets
  citing the ~/ erosion of confidence
  the recrimination betrayed an ~/ (Israeli raid)
erosion of (Aboriginal) culture
  the historic ~/ erosion of privacy
  each new ~/ (Internet)
erosion of profits
  with the ~/ (US sheep industry)
erosion of support
  he faces an ~/ (a politician)
erosion of (sexual) values
  it’s wrong to blame popular culture for the ~/ erosion of viewership
  broadcasters alarmed at the ~/ erosion of (NASA’s) technical skills
  experts point to an ~/ ratings erosion
  the two TV game shows are facing serious ~/ physical and cultural erosion
  American Indians try to reverse decades of ~/ (diet, etc.)
blame popular culture for the erosion
  it’s wrong to ~/ of sexual values
decline: erosion
failure, accident & impairment: erosion
erupt (feeling)
erupts in anger
  just then he ~/ and… (drunk)
erupted in celebration
  the Fire Hall ~/ (rescue of miners)
erupted in cheers
  when he came across the finish line, we all ~/ erupts into cheers
  the crowd of soldiers ~/ (Bagram)
erupted with joy
  the Yankees’ dugout ~/ (sports)
cheers erupted
  more ~/ (rescue of coal miners)
panic erupted
  the victims were trampled to death when ~/ (Haj)feeling, emotion & effect: explosion ~/ verb
erupt (verb)

erupted in Kinshasa fighting ~ (Congo)
erupted in Lagos violence ~
erupted in Tibet in 2008 protests ~
erupted on message boards squabbles ~ (online investments)
erupted during a (motorcycle) rally a wild clash that ~
erupted in protest Lebanon ~ when Hariri was murdered
erupt in violence political races in the Niger Delta frequently ~
erupted in civil war Libya has ~
erupted into violence Haiti, which ~ three weeks ago long-simmering ethnic tensions have ~
erupt (quickly) into (violent) free-for-alls rallies can ~ (Kenya)

Egypt is erupting ~ (protests.)

chaos erupted ~ in the diner (Seacrest Diner attack) the ~ at a security checkpoint (at an airport)

conflicts erupt when ~, MSF sends teams of surgeons…

controversy erupted ~ when a white fraternity performed a skit…

crisis erupts the US will need to strike preemptively before a ~

fire erupted more enemy ~ and he dove for cover behind a rock;

lawlessness erupts when disasters occur, ~

protests erupted ~ (Korea)

riots erupted the ~ after Japan scored (in Moscow / World Cup)

squabbles erupted ~ on online-investor message boards

trouble erupted some minor ~

trouble will erupt bikers have been wondering if ~ in Sturgis (rally)

violence erupted last year ~ in France’s small towns (Beurs / Rebeus)

gunfire erupts ~, and bodies sprawl everywhere

warfare erupted gang ~ in Compton as the Bloods sought revenge…

fighting erupted the ~ July 20 between… (rival political gangs) ~ in Kinshasa (Congo)

caused (racial) tensions to erupt the altercation ~

♦ Sounds from the eruption of Krakatoa volcano in the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra in 1883 were heard up to 3,000 miles away, but not by everyone, due to peculiarities of sound waves and the atmosphere.

Initiation: volcano / verb
amount & effect: volcano / verb

eruption

eruption of violence the ~ has dashed hopes (Middle East)
eruption of gunfire he heard the ~ (combat)

Initiation: volcano

amount & effect: volcano

escalate (verb)

violence escalated the ~ on Saturday (protests)

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

esSENCE

essence his ~ rather than his show-biz surface

essence of the (scientific) method the ~ lies in the repeatable result

essence of motherhood the ~ is to nurture, protect, love

essence of childhood the ~, of course, is play (“Childhood,” by Bill Cosby)

bases / substance & lack of substance: chemistry

analysis, interpretation & explanation: chemistry

etch (verb)

etched their mark his companies ~ on city skylines (developer)

etched itself into my memory the photo ~

etched him in my mind
that experience has forever ~

impression: mark / tools & technology / verb

etched

etched in their faces
   I could see despair and suffering ~

etched in the (tribe's permanent) memory
   the crime will remain ~ (murder of tribal cop)

etched in the (country's) memory
   the murders are ~

etched in stone
   reform is not yet ~
   none of the rules are ~ (about health)
   nothing is ever ~ (planning)

etched by the weather
   her face is ~

impression: mark / tools & technology

eureka

eureka moment
   but the ~ came when…
   ♦ This word is Greek and translates as, "I found it!" Its utterance is associated with the scholar Archimedes. The word is the state motto of California and refers to the discovery of gold and the Californian Gold Rush.

success & failure: mining
searching & discovery: allusion / mining
comprehension & incomprehension: water

evangelical (adjective)
evangelical about camels
   Lauren Brisbane is ~ and their milk (in Australia)
evangelical certainty
   she speaks in staccato bursts of ~ (death penalty)

message: religion

evangelist (person)
evangelist for veterans' care
   he is the President's ~
evangelist for energy efficiency
   he has been an ~ (Nobel Prize winner)
evangelist for the idea
   I really became an ~ (E.O. Wilson / inclusive fitness)
developer evangelist
   she is a ~ who teaches programming to girls
open-source evangelist
   Bruce Perens, an ~ (computing)
Web evangelist
   I come from print, I'm not much of a ~ (newspapers)
culinary evangelist
   he is a ~ out for converts (chef)

message: religion
enthusiasm: person / religion
person: religion

evaporate (verb)
forces evaporated
despite their vows to fight to the death, their ~ (rebels)

revenue has ~
   ~ in the digital-music industry

good will has evaporated
   the ~ (government)
appearance & disappearance: water / verb
eve (on the eve)
on the eve of destruction
   we are ~
   ♦ "Eve" relates to "evening."

proximity: day
even-handed (adjective)
even-handed policy
   he's striven to maintain an ~

judgment: hand
evil eye
parting evil eye
   she gave me a ~
power of the evil eye
   witches were said to destroy their victims by the ~
black magic and the evil eye
   ~ take effect with the help of the jinn
ward off the evil eye
   an inverted hand by the door to ~
   Middle Eastern amulets meant to ~ (Hand of Fatima)
protect against the evil eye
   he wore a paper amulet around his neck to ~ (Liberia)
attributed to the evil eye
   disease and death were often ~
terrified of the evil eye
   the Italian dictator Benito Mussolini was ~

danger: eye
eviscerate (verb)
eviscerated the prosecution’s case
   she ~, point by point (a judge)
destruction: health & medicine / verb
eviscerated
   eviscerated by liberal judges and politicians
   the justice system has been ~
**exclamation point**

put an exclamation point on that round
he ~ (strong finish to MMA match)

put a (major) exclamation mark on her career
she has ~ (Sawa Homare / football)

excommunicated

excommunicated from the movement
he has been ~

excommunicated from the priesthood
he was ~ of economists

exhausted (adjective)

exhausted
our armed forces are ~

exhausted with its wars
the US is ~ in Iraq and Afghanistan

exhausted and broken
an ~ post-war Britain in 1948

exhaustion (noun)
moral exhaustion
beneath the pep talks is a rueful sense of ~

exhume (verb)
exhumes skeletons
Poland ~ in its Communist closet

exile (in exile)
in exile
you're in the inner circle, or you're ~ (politics)
he's no longer ~, but… (access to President)

exile (noun)
period of exile
the political party can look forward to a long ~

exodus (noun)
exodus of civilians
he expects a further ~ (war)

exodus of staff members
the magazine has been bled by an ~

exodus of doctors, engineers, scientists
Venezuela suffers from an ~ and other professionals

exodus (of women) from the (science) fields
her paper examines the ~

exorcise (verb)
exorcise
Baathism remains a ghost that Iraq can’t ~

exorcist the demons
we must ~ of the past… (history)

exorcised that ghost
European leaders thought they had ~ (Berlusconi)

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 231 of 982
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: creature / religion / verb

**expedition (fishing expedition)**

fishing expedition
the government claimed the investigation was a ~ (politics) traffic stops that became ~s (police and Latinos)
fishing expedition for information it appears to be a ~, casting a very broad net

**pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish / hunting searching & discovery: animal / fish / hunting**

**expense (at the expense)**

at the expense of Arabs Turkey’s growing regional role will not be ~
at the expense of the animals owners cut costs and corners ~ (ranches)
at the expense of (naive) consumers sophisticated consumers can profit ~
at the expense of the family but all this success was ~... (working women)
at the expense of the poor privatization further enriches the rich ~
at the expense of his life his actions ~... (Medal of Honor)
at the expense of troop levels shifting troops to Baghdad will come~ elsewhere

at Owner’s Expense Violators will be Towed Away ~ (airport)
at your expense it will be ~
profit at the expense of naive consumers sophisticated consumers can ~

**cost & benefit: money**

**experiment (noun)**

experiment the US is often referred to as an ~
* “A fool, you know, is a man who never tried an experiment in his life.” (Erasmus Darwin to Richard Lovell Edgeworth.)

**experimentation:** chemistry

**explode (destroy)**

exploded it’s been a year since the economy ~

destruction: explosion

**explode (emotion)**

explodes she ~ (becomes angry)

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / pressure / verb / weapon

**initiation:** explosion / pressure / verb / weapon

**explode (initiation)**

explode into violence he let his anger ~

exploded in violence months of protests that ~ late Thursday

exploded with support the Internet ~ for Hanson

intifada exploded in 1987, when the first ~ through Gaza and...
situation exploded the whole ~ (divorce / violence)

violence could explode ~ after the traditional mourning period (Caucasus)

starting to explode the whole punk-rock scene was just ~

**Initiation:** explosion / verb

**explode (increase)**

exploded in popularity rafting and camping ~ (below a dam)

exploded in the past decade wakeboarding has ~

exploded in the United States the sport has ~ (soccer)

exploded in the last few years the black market has ~ (for Venus flytraps)

enrollment has exploded UMUC’s ~, from 21,100 to 30,700 this year

interest (in cookie decorating) has exploded ~ in recent years

population has exploded the town’s ~ in the last decade (increased)

population (of Niger) has exploded the ~ (increased dramatically)

use (of Ecstasy) is exploding the ~

Internet modeling has exploded ~ in all forms (teen modeling)

caused the (mouse) population to explode the hunting of snakes has ~

**increase & decrease: explosion / verb**

**initiation:** explosion / verb
explode (onto the scene, etc.)
exploded onto the scene
she ~ last year (a singer)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: explosion
exploding
exploding population
the world's ~
ensuring flood control for South Florida's ~
increase & decrease: explosion
explore (analyze)
explore this
let's ~... (the topic of tariffs)
explores the lives
his book ~ of Native Americans
explores the (counterintuitive) notion
he ~ that... (decision-making)
explore the possibility
~ of a negotiated settlement (Middle East)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: journeys & trips / verb
explore (discover)
explored (several) fantasies
we ~ with each other (Internet)
explore my (secret) fantasies
my website allows me to ~
explorers matters of love, sex, and commitment
the film ~
exploration the Bard’s life and work
we will ~ (BBC program)
searching & discovery: journeys & trips / verb
explosion (violence, etc.)
explosion of violence
both sides shared the blame for the ~
initiation: explosion
explosion (sound)
explosion of gunfire
he heard the ~ (combat)
sound: explosion
explosion (increase)
explosion of (arctic) flowers
May and June bring an ~
expllosion in (graphics) technology
the ~
exploration in (cellphone) use
the ~ has had an impact on 911 operations
explosion of (international) trade and travel
the ~ that's occurred
AIDS explosion
the potential for an ~ in the country (India)
crime explosion
the ~ (in Venezuela)
information explosion
there is a tremendous ~ today
potential for an (AIDS) explosion
the ~ in the country (India)
increase & decrease: explosion
explosive (power)
explosive burst
you load the dart in the mouthpiece and exhale in an ~
power: explosion
explosive (increase)
explosive growth
the ~ of the textile industry
the ~ in technology over the past few decades
keeping up with the ~ of scientific data (storage)
explosive rate
condo conversion sales have been increasing at an ~
increase & decrease: explosion
explosive (violence, etc.)
explosive situation
they discussed the ~ in the Palestinian territories
initiation: explosion
express (Pineapple Express, etc.)
Pineapple Express
the ~ is the source of moisture into southern California
the ~ is an atmospheric river (into southern California)
force: epithet / train
expressway (expressway to death, etc.)
expressway to death
National highway 8 is known as the ~ (India)
route: epithet / infrastructure
extinguish (verb)
extinguish (negative) behaviors
a discipline plan to ~ (school)
destruction: fire / verb
extracurricular
extracurricular activities
prying into employees' harmless ~
extracurricular uses
~ of the office computer
extent & scope: school & education
eye (verb)
eyed me suspiciously
he ~
sight: eye / verb
eye (appearance and reality)
meets the eye
there is more to him than ~
a closer look at the numbers finds less there than ~
appearance & reality: eye
eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
Eye of Kuruman
the ~ is a natural spring (Die Oog / S. Africa)
Eye of the Sun
the ~ is a natural arch in Monument Valley, Arizona
♦ The Eye (Die Oog) in Kuruman is the largest known natural spring in the southern hemisphere. The unofficial emblem of the town of Zastron, also in South Africa, is Die Oog (the Eye). In Zastron's case, the Eye consists of two rock pillars, connected side by side. Near the top, a hole goes completely through the rock. That hole looks like an eye.
proper name: eye
shape: eye
eye (public eye)
in the public eye
this will boost his image ~ (a fallen celebrity)
out of the public eye
he has created a new life ~
came to the public eye
it never ~ (campus espionage)
remained in the public eye
Wilma Mankiller has ~ (Cherokee leader)
brought windsurfing into the public eye
he ~
appearance & reality: eye
eye (attention)
Eye on America
features like ~ (network news)
eyes and ears
they were all ~ (Germans at a Oglala Sioux powwow)
all eyes
~ were on Kate (performance)

once again ~ are on the Dallas district attorney (crime)
wary eyes
her ~ took me in at a glance
prying eyes
she retreated there from ~
wandering eye
he was a lecher with a ~
wandering eyes
~ and other suspicious test activity (cheating)
catch my eye
she ~ (attraction)
catch his eye
a large display of toothpaste ~ (in a store)
deviations from Islamic social norms also ~
catch Jean’s eye
when I ~ again, I nodded towards…
keep an eye on
is there anything else to ~ (elections)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye
eye (character and personality)
stars in her eyes
she has ~ (not practical)
she had ~ and a sense of her own destiny (Elizabeth Holmes of Theranos)
character & personality: eye
eye (open eyes, etc.)
eye opening
it was very ~ for me (kids’ comments)
with eyes (wide) open
the decision was made ~ (foreign policy)
go into this with our eyes open
it is critical that we ~ (elections)
keeps an (eagle) eye out for infractions
he ~
keep an eye out for you
I’ll ~ (watch for your arrival)
keep my eyes open
I ~ (for opportunity)
keep your eyes open
~ (warning)
opened my eyes to the opportunities
the experience ~
open your eyes to the reality
~ that there is big-town crime here (Taos)
big eyes
a stranger has ~ but sees nothing (proverb / traveling)
roving eye
  my husband has a ~

consciousness & awareness: eye
eye (closed eyes, etc.)
eyes closed
  people didn’t go into this with their ~ (Brexiters)

consciousness & awareness: eye
eye (for the eyes)
feast for the eyes
  it was a ~
sight for sore eyes
  he was a ~

appearance: eye
eye candy
eye candy
  many go to auto shows looking for ~
blond eye candy
  there’s lots of ~ Down Under (Oz)

appearance: eye
eye (goal)
eye
  he had his ~ on the nomination (Ted Kennedy)
dollar signs in their eyes
  companies with ~
wants, needs, hopes & goals: eye
eye (turn a blind eye)
turned a blind eye
  as China hacked, U.S. businesses ~
turn a blind eye to the consequences
  loggers learn to ~ of clear-cutting
turn a blind eye to polygamy
  local officials ~ (southeastern Turkey)
turn a blind eye to the problem
  we cannot ~
turned a blind eye to terrorism
  they have ~
turn a blind eye to cruelty and crime
  the state should never ~ (honor killings, etc.)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye / verb
bribed to turn a blind eye
  officials were ~

eye (bat an eye / eyelash)
bat an eye
  the students don’t ~ at the sight of fast-food-delivery robots
    (a university)
bat an eyelash
  he didn’t ~

feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture / verb
eye (perception)
in the eyes of the US
  it has done a bit to improve its standing ~ (a country)
in the eyes of his competitors
  ~, he is the best (mixed-martial arts)
in the eyes of the public
  Muhammed Ali is still the champion ~
in the eye of the beholder
  beauty is ~
  with his geologist’s eye
    ~, he found a field nearby and found…
  with a practiced eye
    he watches ~ (an anthropologist)
  with fresh eyes
    people are looking at his issue ~ (foreign aid)
  with new eyes
    a student may see home ~ (after studying abroad)
  with a suspicious eye
    those who come to Jerusalem are watched ~
  with suspicious eyes
    sportswomen are looked at ~ (homophobia)
to the (outside) eye
  the system appears medieval ~ (Afghanistan)
to a (trained) eye
  the data reveals a disturbing pattern ~
to the (untrained) eye
  it may look complicated ~ but…
  clues not apparent ~ (police)
to (Mexican) eyes
  ~ the US has more than its share of everything…
eyes of an expert
  what is most important is the experience of the ~
  leaders’ eyes
    countries whose ~ are fixed on domestic voters (summit)
painter’s eye
  the workings of a ~
keen eye
  a ~ is the result of training and practice (landmines)
  recognizing traps demands intuition and a ~
watches with a practiced eye
  he ~ (an anthropologist)
see home with new eyes
    a student may ~ (after studying abroad)
looking at this issue with fresh eyes
    people are ~ (foreign aid)
looked at with a suspicious eye
    sportswomen are ~ (homophobia)
watched with a suspicious eye
    those who come to Jerusalem are ~

perception, perspective & point of view: eye
eye (resemblance)
eye
    I was here when the ~ came right over the island
eye of the storm
    the ~ passed over Portsmith (hurricane)
hurricane’s eye
    police rescued 5 families when the ~ passed over
storm’s eye
    Gulf Shores, where the ~ blew ashore (hurricane)
defined eye
    a minimal hurricane with 75 mph winds and a ~
eyes of the coconut
    pierce two ~ with a sharp object
resemblance: eye
eye (an eye for an eye)
eye for an eye-style (m)
    a crowd gathered to demand ~ justice (Pakistan)
revenge: eye
eye (subterfuge)
throw smoke and dust in the eyes
    they are trying to ~ of the investigators (lawyers)
subterfuge: eye
eye (sight)
met our eyes
    an unusual sight ~ (on a wilderness trip)
believe my eyes
    I couldn’t ~
sight: eye
eye (surveillance)
eye in the sky
    you can put an ~ (drone / UAVs)
under the (watchful) eyes of their mothers
    the cubs hunt ~
under the (watchful) eyes of (security) officers
    he was constantly ~
got out from under the father’s (controlling) eye
    when she ~
keep a (close) eye on her
    we have to ~
keep a (close) eye on them
    we ~ (detainees)
keep a (good) eye on her
    I have to ~
keep a (watchful) eye on players
    coaches must ~ (heat stroke in summer)
eyes of (U.S. spy) satellites
    the eagle ~
Dragon Eye
    the portable ~ (an unmanned aerial vehicle) (military)
robot eye
    a ~ attached to the Internet, which visitors could control
robotic "eye"
    a free-flying ~ that can circle the space station
sets of eyes
    the robots could serve as extra ~ (PSA)
eyes of Boston Harbor
    we’re asked to be the ~ (a Yacht club, terrorism)
eyes and ears
    the public is our ~ (police manhunt)
"eyes and ears" of the commander
    the Air Cavalry Team is the ~ (military)
eyes and ears of the (battalion) commander
    we serve as the ~ (scout/snipers)
eyes and ears of the community
    "Amber" alerts mobilized the ~ (child kidnappings)
eyes and ears of the outside world
    African Union monitors serve as the sole ~ (Darfur)
eyears and eyes in the sky
    the NSA, Uncle Sam’s ~
eyes and ears on the ground
    he worked under cover as Al Jazeera’s ~
show for the eyes and ears
    it’s a ~ (gambling at casino)
keeping our eyes and ears open
    we’re definitely ~
    ♦ Positive controls provide a means to put "eyes" on a target. (Military.)
surveillance: eye
eye (see eye to eye, etc.)
see eye to eye with my (new) boss
    I don’t ~
    see eye to eye
we will never ~
they don't always ~ (European leaders)
they might ~ (two leaders)

**unanimity & consensus: eye**

**eye (naked eye)**

naked-eye observer
an inexperienced ~ (sky phenomena)
naked-eye light phenomena
~ in the sky
naked eye, binoculars or telescope
don't look at the sun with the ~
invisible to the naked eye
trace evidence looks at microscopic evidence ~
visible to the naked eye
the comet should be ~

**help & assistance: clothing & accessories**

**eyeball (up to one's eyeballs)**

up to their eyeballs in (dangerous) chemicals
these fish are ~ (tomcods in New York and New Jersey)

**involvement: eye**

**eyeball (attention)**

eyeball
“~s,” or the number of people drawn to a Web site
brought a ton of eyeballs to her sport
her sex appeal has ~ (Danica Patrick)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

**eyeball (sight)**

map, eyeball, and stars
troops were still navigating by ~ (pre-GPS)

**sight: eye**

**eyebrow (raise eyebrows)**

raised eyebrows
it ~ last month when… (officer criticizes another officer)
the report ~…
his comments on the prospect of a female Dali Lama ~
raises an eyebrow
the timing ~
raised no eyebrows
the marriage ~ (professor / student)

instantly raised eyebrows
the timing of the murder ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye / gesture**

**eye-catching**

eye-catching moves
he's got ~ (a very good lacrosse player)

eye-catching (white) suit
a curvy Southern belle in an ~

eye-catching painted squares

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye**

**eye-opener**

eye-opener
the visit was an ~
it is an ~ in several ways ("Lan Yu," filmed in Beijing)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

**eye-opening**

eye-opening
the new information was ~ (a murder investigation)

**consciousness & awareness: eye**

**eye-popping**

eye-popping (stock) performance
years of ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: eye**

**eye-roll (dismissal)**

biggest eye-roll
that is the ~ I've ever seen you do (BBC’s The Hurricane Tapes)
become an eye-roll
the term has ~ (woke)

**feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / eye / gesture**

**eyesore**

eyesore
the tower is an ~ (on a mountain)
the cell tower near Yellowstone's Old Faithful is an ~
the armory is an ~ right now and needs a facelift

armory is an eyesore
the ~ right now and needs a facelift
tower is an eyesore
the ~ (on a mountain)
criticized as an eyesore
the cell tower has been ~ (in Yellowstone)

**appearance: eye**

**F**

**fabric (environment)**

fabric of (accepted) conduct
cheating is woven into the ~
fabric of democracy
people living and working together is the ~

fabric of our nation
their legacy is woven through the ~ today (gen WW I)

fabric of our society
this division tears at the very ~ (elite vs. underclass)

city's fabric
violence has become a part of the ~ (Baltimore / drugs)

social fabric
the stress of collapsing economies can tear the ~ apart
we have to consider the ~ of Lebanon (politics)

part of the fabric
I don't remember it being ~ (a sports tradition)

part of the (city’s) fabric
violence has become a ~ (Baltimore / drugs)

fraying the fabric
logging and roads are ~ of nature

eat away at the fabric
these are things that ~ of our city (hate crime on gays)

tearing at the fabric
this is ~ of people's lives (oil spill)

threaded itself into the fabric
the gang has ~ of the village

woven into the fabric
cheating is ~ of accepted conduct
Arab Americans are deeply ~ of America

environment: cloth

fabricate (verb)

fabricated his account
there was no reason to believe that he ~ (crime)

fabricate data
the fear that doctors who own company stock will ~ (drugs)

fabricated evidence
he ~ that he had cloned human cells (scientist)

fabricated the figures
many questioned whether the medical examiner had ~

fabricated and falsified
MIT said he ~ data in a scientific paper;
he ~ research findings (breast-cancer researcher)

fabricated (lying)

fabrication
the quote was a ~

fabrication and plagiarism
he committed widespread ~ in news articles

creation & transformation: manufacturing

facade (noun)

facade of respectability
he lifted the ~ to reveal the hypocrisy

peered behind the facade
the center’s reputation had taken some hits from reporters
who’d ~

appearance & reality: infrastructure

substance & lack of substance: infrastructure

concealment & lack of concealment: infrastructure

face (look something in the face)

looked their tragic history in the face
the Americans had never ~

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb

face (in one’s face)

in your face
some of these feminists can be really ~ (a Swiss woman)

resistance, opposition & defeat: face

face (face facts, etc.)

face your problems
you have to ~ head on

face facts
it's time to ~

face the facts
she urged her youngest daughter to ~

faced the reality
he finally ~ that the agency was bumbling (C.I.A.)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb

face (face anger, etc.)

face anger
leaders ~ across Nigeria

faces the ax
the show still ~ (TV)

face (tight) budgets
schools ~

face the challenge
soldiers must ~ of combat with leadership, initiative, and skill

faces a charge
he ~ of theft by deception
faced collapse
the company asked for government intervention as it ~
face danger
once you ~ over and over you lose your fear
face death
they still ~ by beheading (Saudi Arabia)
face my death
a nursing staff that will help me ~ (dying)
face discrimination
their children ~ in Somali schools (Somali Bantus)
many Israeli Arabs say they ~
face (widespread) discrimination
laborers from rural China ~ (in China)
faces a (potential rabies) epidemic
the city ~
faces eviction
the business ~ when its lease expires (nightclub)
faces a (terrible economic) inheritance
the government ~ (Britain)
face (tough) penalties
some young abusers do ~ (animal abuse)
face (strong family) pressure
they ~ to be dutiful sons
faces a (rough) road
President Obama ~ (politics)
faces (potential) sanctions
Missouri ~ (sports)
faces (big) test
US ~ in ambitious troop rotation
faced a (new) threat
the Rangers ~ (mortars / Takur Ghar)
face forced marriages
five girls ~ (Pakistan / result of vani tradition)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb
fictive meeting & seeing: face / verb

face (in the face of)

in the face of adversity
motivate soldiers to fight on ~
the belief that men must be strong ~ (emotions)
in the face of authority
the defiant gesture ~
in the face of change
this marriage tradition is disappearing ~ (Yupiks)
in the face of danger
we will not blink ~ (military)
in the face of (harrowing) danger
his heroic actions ~ (military)
in the face of death
all fear of embarrassment or failure fall way ~
in the face of failure
the team has demonstrated resilience ~
why do some persist ~ while others give up
in the face of their fury
the ceasefire meant little ~
in the face of a (major) threat
what would they do ~ (military)
in the face of (faculty) unrest
~ (at a college)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face
resistance, opposition & defeat: face
appearance & disappearance: face

face (fly in the face)
fly in the face of notions
the 2000 census findings ~ of…
flies in the face of (social) convention
his work ~ (an artist)
fly in the face of the facts
his findings ~
fly in the face of power
artistic works that ~ (an award)
fly in the face of conventional wisdom
his findings ~ (scientist)

Have you ever been “dive-bombed” by a bird protecting its nest or territory? That may be the basis for this expression.

resistance, opposition & defeat: bird

face (conflict)
in each other's face
the coaches wants the players ~ (over mistakes)
get out of my face
now ~ (leave) (rude)

conflict: face

face (blow up in one's face)
blow up in his face
it could ~ (if he ignored the infraction)
blown up in our face
this has ~ (supporting Somali warlords)

reversal: explosion / verb

face (slap in the face)
slap in the face
the offer was a ~ (to relatives of dead miners)
slap in the face of (U.S.) politicians
a ~ (Saddam's view of nine-eleven)

**insult: face**

**face (concept)**
loss of face
  easing him out of power without a ~

save face
dictators always need to ~ (China / repression)

private face
  he had a public face and a ~

public face
  I have taken a lot of trouble with my ~ (Noel Coward)

true face
  Iranians hide their ~ (speech)

hide their (true) face
  Iranians ~ (speech)

♦ “The mind thinks something, the heart feels something else, the tongue says something else, and manners do something else. It doesn’t mean people are lying. They are just dealing with you with a different character.” (Muhammad Atrianfar, an Iranian newspaper publisher, on the complexities of communicating with his fellow Iranians.)

♦ “Honnetsu taijutsu?” (A Japanese expression for the difference between one’s public facade and one’s real feelings.)

**society: face**

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: face

**face (international face, etc.)**

face of boxing
  he changed the ~ (Muhammad Ali)

face of climate denial
  President Trump has become the ~ (Al Gore)

face of fashion
  model diversity and the ever-changing ~

face of (sideline) protests
  he became the ~ (NFL’s Kaepernick)

face of resistance
  the Dali Lama is the ~ to Chinese rule (Tibet)

international face
  he was the ~ of Iraq (Tariq Aziz)

public face
  he is the ~ of the proposed community center
  he has become the ~ of the hospital (chief of trauma)
  the Defense Secretary really is the ~ of the Pentagon to the world

changing face
  the ~ of a rural Colorado community (immigration)

**representation: face**

**face (appearance)**

baby face
  the lean build, ~, and curly brown hair
  a full beard to hide his ~

game face
  suit up and put on his ~ (NASCAR driver)
  she had on her ~ (a law-enforcement officer)

**appearance: face**

**face (other)**

face value
  coins priced well above their ~

smiley-face (m)
  ~ stickers

**faceless**

faceless bureaucracy
  try as he may, he cannot penetrate a ~

**identity & nature: face**

**facelift**

undergo a (major) facelift
  the museum will ~ (Guggenheim)

amelioration & renewal: face

**face-saving (concept)**

British face-saving
  this is just an exercise in ~

face-saving compromise
  he has quietly argued for a ~ that would…

exercise in (British) face-saving
  this is just an ~

**social interaction: face**

**face up (face up to something)**

faced up to the need
  the government was forced to ~ for urban planning

face up to this problem
  soccer must ~ and tackle it (fan racism)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face / verb

action, inaction & delay: face / verb

**fade (verb)**

faded into irrelevance
  the group has ~

fades into obscurity
  he may not mind if his name ~…

faded into the past
  episodes of violence which have long ~ Native Americans)

fade into the background
  many prefer to ~ (teen-model sites on Internet)

faded into (grim) determination
  my earlier feeling of achievement ~ as we struggled…

fades out of boxing
my hope is that Tyson just ~ (the boxer).
faded after a few weeks
her latest book got lousy reviews and ~
fades over the course of a month
anxiety following a trauma that ~ or so isn’t depression
faded from the scene
the anti-crime campaign ~ in most urban areas
faded from sight
the Rebel Flag ~ when the South was defeated…
fading fast
America’s reputation is ~ (Iraq)
faded steadily
anxiety following a trauma that ~ over the course of a month
applause faded
as the ~ and he approached the lectern…
fame faded
the ~ (a writer)
hopes faded
~ for 102 miners trapped in a flooded coal mine (China)
his ~ (Montagnard in Cambodian refugee camp)
impression (soon) fades
but our initial ~ as… (of a film character)
memories fade
~… (time)
memories (of Katrina) have faded
but ~… (New Orleans)
memory (of the Hayman fire) fades
as ~ (wildfire)
stigma is fading
the TV appearance of teen victims suggests the rape ~
old ways have been fading
the ~ (Inuit)
begin to fade
if we offer hope, then the stigma ~ (HIV and retrovirals)
starting to fade
old ways of life are ~ as the Arctic thaws
appearance & disappearance: light & dark / verb
decline: light & dark / verb
fade away (verb)
fade away quickly
their recent memories ~ (the elderly)
memories fade away
their recent ~ quickly (the elderly)
support fades away
as his ~… (leader of a country)
burn out or fade away
playboating didn’t ~ (whitewater rodeos, etc.)

appearance & disappearance: light & dark / verb
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: light & dark / verb
fail (a stunning fail, etc.)
Amazon fail
an ~ is a learning experience (restaurant delivery)
stunning fail
it was a ~ (Boeing’s software problems with Max plane)
♦ In the dictionary I use, the only use of fail as a noun is in the expression, “without fail.”
failure, accident & impairment: verb to noun
faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
faint hearted
academia, like war, is not for the ~
this is a tough business model, it’s not for the ~ (a pub)
eagerness & reluctance: heart
courage & lack of courage: heart
fairy (Fairy Bridge, etc.)
Fairy Bridge
we floated under the ~ (a natural arch on Buliu River)
Fairy Castle
~ is a pillar in Bryce Canyon, Utah
Fairy Dell
~ is a valley in Nevada
Fairy Ladder Falls
we visited ~ near Dix Mountain
Fairyland Canyon
~ is a valley in Bryce Canyon
Palace of the Fairy Queen
the ~ is a pillar in Bryce Canyon
proper name: creature
fairy tale
fairy-tale ending
this was not the ~ his glittering career deserved (soccer)
fairy-tale romance
they had a ~
resemblance: story / books & reading
faith
blind faith
he had this ~ in me (defensive coach)
lose faith
I began to ~ in him
allegiance, support & betrayal: religion
**fall (noun)**

fall of the (police) state
with the ~

fall of the Soviet Union
in the chaotic period following the ~ (nuclear arms)

fall from grace
it was a stunning ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

stunning fall
now to the ~ of a CEO

hard fall
Indonesia's economy has taken a ~

imminent fall
diplomats predicted Taylor's ~ (Liberia)

took a fall
religious coexistence ~ under Gen. Zia ul-Haq

**decline: direction**

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction

**fall (fall from power, etc.)**

fallen from favor
she has ~ (a replaced Broadway director)

fell from power
he ~

stand or fall
the theory will ~ on the strength of that argument

stood or fell
the government ~ by its alliance with…

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction

**fall (defeat)**

fell to the Incas
the Chimu Kingdom ~ (Peru)

fall to the opposition
eastern Libya was first to ~

fell in the first round
4 giants ~ (World Cup soccer)

fell without a shot
the rebel forces evaporated, and the city ~

city fell
the rebels fled and the ~ without a shot

resistance, opposition & defeat: direction / flying & falling / verb

**fall (fall ill, etc.)**

fall ill
their duty status at the time they ~
those who do ~ become infectious days earlier (dengue)
they began to ~ with mysterious symptoms

**fall (fall from power, etc.)**

direction / verb

fell into a (fatal) coma
he ~ after drinking bourbon (fraternity member)

fell into a (deep) depression
he ~, popping pain pills and swilling tequila

fell into a funk
it's easy to ~ about Russia's future
the jobless aren't the only people who can ~ over work

fell into a (deep) sleep
he ~

fall into a dream state
its victims ~ (tokoloshe)

consciousness & awareness: direction / verb

**fall (on Friday, etc.)**

fell on a school night
Halloween ~

**occurrence: direction**

**fall (night fell, etc.)**

dark had fallen
full ~ by now

night had fallen

**occurrence: direction**

**fall (silence fell, etc.)**

silence fell
a ~

**occurrence: direction**

**fall (numbers)**

fell 50%
attendance ~

fell to (abnormally low) levels
causes the blood sugar to ~

fell to 165 pounds from 198
his weight ~ (injured bedridden skier)

fell to 16 below zero
temperatures ~

fell to single digits
his popularity ratings ~

fell to 190 million kilograms
the country's tea exports ~ (India)

fell steadily
AIDS cases ~ as new, more effective drugs took hold

attendance fell
~ more than 50 percent (at a museum)
cases fell
  AIDS ~ as new, more effective drugs took hold

exports fell
  the country’s tea ~ to 190 million kilograms (India)

population has fallen
  Malaysia’s wild-tiger ~ from 3,000 to 500 (2008)

ratings fell
  his popularity ~ to single digits

temperatures fell
  ~ to 16 below zero

weight fell
  his ~ to 165 pounds from 198 (bedridden injured skier)

ridership fell
  ~ as tourism slumped (cabs)

viewership has been falling
  ~ (the Olympics)

blood pressure falls
  ~, the pulse is rapid and weak (shock)

death rates (per vehicle mile) have fallen

**decline: direction / verb**

**fall (money)**

fell 6 percent
  revenues ~ (a company)

fell by 0.6%
  construction spending ~ in November (US)

income fell
  its ~ because of… (a company)
  prices have been falling
  disk ~ (computers / storage)

prices (subsequently) fell
  oil ~ as low as $10 a barrel

revenues fell
  ~ 6 percent (a company)

shares fall
  profits rise, but ~ at G.E.

stock fell
  the ~ even though the company…

spending fell
  construction ~ by 0.6% in November (US)

continue falling
  commission prices are likely to ~

**decline: direction / verb**

**fall (fall short)**

fall (far) short of acceptance
  we’ll see improvement, but it will ~

fall short of demand
  the teacher supply will continue to ~

fell (7,000) short of its (recruiting) goal
  the Navy ~

fell (far) short of the (UN) goals
  the plan ~ for combating…

falls short of its hype
  the city ~ (Seattle)

falls short of requirements
  improvise where the logistics system ~ (war)

falls short of (professional) standards
  a doctor can be admonished if he ~

fell short of its (enlistment) target
  the Navy ~

fall short of torture
  methods that ~, such as sleep deprivation

fell (far) short of meeting
  it ~ the Congressional intent (government plan)

fell 7,000 short
  the Navy ~ of its recruiting goal

**success & failure: direction**

**fall (fall on / upon)**

fell upon hard times
  she ~

fallen on hard times
  the team has ~ (losing record)

**decline: direction**

**fall (an emotion can fall)**

rose and fell
  hope ~ as the hours passed (mine-rescue attempt)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction**

**fall (fall into a rage, etc.)**

fell into panic
  I ~ (a student)

fell into rages
  he ~ (after traumatic brain injury)

**feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb**

**fall (fall in love)**

fell in love with America
  I ~ (exchange student)

fell in love with the (area’s) seascapes
artists ~ (northern Jutland)
fell in love with (tribal) carvings
    Andre Breton ~ from Oceania (artist)
fell in love with the sport
    like a lot of boys, he ~ straighthaway (Ben Raemers)
fallen in love with climbing
    he had ~ after taking a NOLS course
    ♦ "What can I say, I'm in love with birds." (A birder.)
    ♦ "To meet a walrus is to fall in love with a walrus." (A walrus researcher.)
    ♦ "I love maps, and when you get hooked, you get hooked." (W. Graham Arader III, a preeminent map dealer of old American maps.)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction
enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage

fall (weight)

    weight (of the tragedy) fell
    the full ~ over the neighborhood (AIDS)

burden falls
    the ~ primarily on women (decisions)

oppression: direction / weight

fall (fall into a category, etc.)

    fall into (3) categories
    pattern injuries ~ (ED)
    falls into the (choking-agent) class
    chlorine is a chemical that ~ (ED)
    fall into (two) groups
        field services ~ essential and nonessential (war)
    fall into (two) groups
    he believed people ~ prey and predator
    falls into the (latter) group
    don't worry if your child ~

taxonomy & classification: direction

fall (fall into the hands, etc.)

    fallen into the hands
    regions that have ~ of the insurgents
    fall into (enemy) hands
    the material could ~ (military)
    fell into (rebel) hands
    the stronghold of Korhogo ~
    falls into the (company's) lap
    consumer data ~
    fall into the hands
    weapons that may ~ of terrorists (NBC, etc.)
    fall into the (wrong) hands
    it could ~
    fall into enemy hands

he feared the machine gun could ~
fell into the wrong hands
if the information ~

possession: direction / hand / verb

fall (fall into chaos, etc.)

    fell into (bloody, lawless) chaos
    Afghanistan ~
    fall into an abyss
    women with eating disorders ~ and can't get out
    fall into a (relentless) cycle
    sufferers ~ of compulsive scratching
    fallen into disrepair
    the property had ~
    fallen into disuse
    many fire lookout towers have ~
    fall into the habit
    it is easy to ~ of using stereotypes to prejudge people
    fell into the life
    their children ~ of American teenagers (Somalis)
    fell into a pattern
    he ~ and was caught (criminal)
    fall into prostitution
    homeless kids often ~ as a form of "survival sex"
    fell into the trap
        the Marines ~ (ambush in Anbar Province)
    fallen into a trap
        the Bush administration has ~ (by invading Iraq)
    fell into drug abuse
        she ~ , self-mutilation and promiscuity (teenager)
    fell into a state of disrepair
        the terminal ~ (Grand Central Terminal)
    easy to fall into
    it is ~ the habit of using stereotypes to prejudge people

decline: direction / verb

fall (devolve)

    falls to the sheriffs
    the ultimate responsibility for safety ~ (of jailed inmates)
    responsibility (for safety) falls
    the ultimate ~ to the sheriffs (of jailed inmates)

responsibility: direction

fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.)

    fell off the charts
        the song rose to number 3, then ~
    fell off the radar screen
        both men ~ (terrorists)
appearance & disappearance: direction / verb

fall apart (verb)

fell apart
my life ~ after I discovered…
he ~ and turned to heroin (after being molested)
their relationship ~ (married couple)
the case ~ (criminal trial)

falls apart
he ~ at the merest hint of frustration (toddler)

fallen apart
the case against him has ~
argument falls apart
but then his ~
arrangement fell apart
less than 2 years later, the ~
life fell apart
my ~ after I discovered…
marrige fell apart
she described how her perfect ~
plans can fall apart
even the best of…

things fell apart
that's what happened in Africa, ~ (aid projects)

failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb

fall down (verb)

down
he ~ and now he's getting back up (redemption)

behavior / success & failure: direction / verb

fallen (dead)

fallen detective
the NYPD payed tribute to its ~ (killed in line of duty)

euphemism / death & life

fallen (the fallen)

living and the fallen
may God bless them, the ~ (speech to military)

death & life: direction

euphemism: death & life

fall off (verb)

rates fall off
~ rapidly after the peak (meteor shower)

decline: direction / verb

fall off (noun)

fall off in travel
there has been a ~ to and from Bali (terrorism)

decline: direction

fallout (effect)

fallout of an (Iraqi) war
they are worried about the ~ (Egyptians)

fallout from the allegations
the firm faces continued ~ (fraud)

fallout from the incident
the ~ was unexpected and severe

fallout from the resignation
the newspaper is still coping with the ~ of…

political fallout
he faces the potential for ~ (politics)

psychological fallout
the ~ to those who served in Vietnam

mental-health fallout
the ~ has yet to peak (Gulf of Mexico)

contain the fallout
the US seeks to ~ from the murders of civilians

bracing for (more) fallout
Washington is ~ from the scandal

feeling, emotion & effect: atmosphere / nuclear energy

affliction: atmosphere / nuclear energy
effect: atmosphere / nuclear energy

fallow (adjective)

fallow
the economy is still ~ (lack of growth)

fallow period
she was enduring a ~ and fighting irrelevance (comic)
she endured ~s in her personal life (relationships)

fallow stretch
Disney has seen a ~ at the box office (films)

fallow territory
FIFA sees the US as ~ for soccer’s growth

fallow time
it was a ~, a frustrating time for him

lay fallow
his analysis ~ for half a century (economics)

lying fallow
the pier has been ~ for a long time (development)

growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant

fall through (verb)

adoption fell through
if the ~ and they often do…
deal fell through
but the ~ because…
plans had fallen through
~ (for a shared meal)
sale fell through
the ~ (protests)
talks fall through
should the trade ~

**success & failure: direction / verb**

**falter (verb)**

negotiations faltered
he threatened China with new tariffs as ~

plans have faltered
their ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
failure, accident & impairment: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping

**family (group)**

European family
do we want to remain a member of the ~ or wander lost (EU)
drive Greece out of the family
the EU is a heartless stepmother trying to ~

relationship: family

**family (gang / group)**

Mafia family
New York's biggest ~

group, set & collection: family

**family (plants)**

onion family
the ramp, a member of the ~
orchid family
the ~ has more than 40,000 species
plant family
120 ~s and 300 species (Botanical Gardens)

taxonomy & classification: family

**family (animals)**

families of Arabian horses
there are five great ~
dolphin family
killer whales, or orcas, are the largest members of the ~
pinniped family
monk seals are the oldest in the ~
equine family
the donkey, mule, and zebra are all members of the ~

taxonomy & classification: family

**family (viruses)**

family of coronaviruses
a new strain from the ~ is to blame (SARS)
family of viruses
it is a ~ that… (coronaviruses)
dengue is from the same ~ that causes yellow fever

viral family
monkeypox is a member of the same ~ as smallpox

taxonomy & classification: family

**family (products)**

family of engines
the JT8D-200 is from the same ~ used on midsize jets

notebook family
the ~ that's won over 800 awards (computers)

combat vehicle family
each member of the future ~
member of the (future vehicle) family
each ~ (military)

taxonomy & classification: family

**family (languages)**

linguistic family
40 ethnic groups belonging to 3 ~s (Africa)

taxonomy & classification: family

**family tree**

family tree
the roots of his ~ lie in Ireland

branching system: family / tree

**famine (feast to famine)**

feast to famine
it was ~ in a couple of weeks (laid-off tech worker)

♦ In “Gold Dust,” the great writer Ibrahim al-Koni writes eloquently about drought, famine, grief, exile, and homelessness associated with the Sahara Desert.
♦ Upwards of 3 million people died of hunger during the Great Bengal Famine of 1943.

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink

**fan (verb)**

fan the flames
this senator sought to further ~ of division

fanned the flames
he has ~ of the controversy

fanning civil war
Iran and Syria have been ~ in Iraq

increase & decrease: fire / verb

initiation: fire / verb
fan (shape)
alluvial fan
  a vast ~ extends out into the Bay of Bengal
shape: fan

fanatic (person)
fitness fanatic
  he is a ~
health fanatic
  he is a fitness trainer and a ~
jade fanatic
  Hu Xianli, a self-professed ~ from Zhejiang Province
sports fanatic
  she describes herself as a ~ (Miss USA)
camel racing fanatic
  a ~ bought a racing camel for $2.7 million (UAE)
self-professed (jade) fanatic
  Hu Xianli, a ~ from Zhejiang Province
describes herself as a sports fanatic
  she ~ (Miss USA)
  ♦ "My motto is, 'Be fit, not fanatic.'" (Exercise in moderation.)

enthusiasm: person / religion
fanfare (attention)
with much fanfare
  her appointment was announced ~ (air force)
with little (advanced) fanfare
  he visited smaller towns, ~ (a presidential candidate)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: music
fan out (verb)
fanning out over the country
  census workers are ~ (India)
movement: fan / shape
extent & scope: fan
far (progress)
get this far
  I never thought I would ~ (immigrant success)
gone too far
  we’ve ~ to turn back now (politics)
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips
far (too far)
a bit too far
  he takes his theory ~
way too far
  this ideology has gone ~
gone too far
he conceded that he had ~ (behavior)
counterterrorism measures have ~
went too far
  he claims the officer ~
  she ~ (bad behavior gets her in trouble)
pushed the limits too far
  she has ~ (nudity)
pushed religion too far
  the Islamists ~ (a Somali)
erred too far
  we have ~ on the side of caution
swung too far
  some think the pendulum has ~ and they want to push it back
behavor: distance
restraint & lack of restraint: distance
farce (noun)
courtroom farce
  the trial was less a drama than a ~
political farce
  meanwhile, a ~ took place at Stormont
become a farce
  the law has ~ (anonymity destroyed by social media)
descended into a farce
  the organizational plans have ~ (Olympic security)
feeling, emotion & effect: theater
farewell (noun)
farewell to comedy
  it is her ~
starting, going, continuing & ending: exclamation
farm (enterprise)
body farm
  the ~ has revolutionized forensic anthropology
cadaver dogs will train at the ~ (North Carolina)
content farm
  Demand Media is a ~
  ~s employ freelance writers
  ~s supply articles based on search-engine queries
tank farm
  one of the facility's two ~s was destroyed (chemicals)
wave farm
  the world's first ~ off Portugal (generating electricity)
wind farm
  a 20-megawatt ~ with 13-16 windmills
  the ~ contains some 4,000 individual windmills (CA)
Wind Farm
  the Gray County ~ in Kansas
A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 248 of 982
the ~s break people into two camps (computers)
race is the ~
fault lines of ethnicity and class
Sunni-Shiite fault line
the ~ originated in the deserts of Iraq in the 7th century
sectarian fault line
Jurf as-Sakhr sits right on a ~ (Sunni / Shiite)
exposed (deep) fault lines
the referendum has ~ in Latvia (with ethnic Russians)
exposed a (stark) fault line
the Smollett case has ~ between Chicago and its county and state
lays bare the fault lines
the report ~ that divide this group (Amish)

division & connection: earthquake

Faustian (adjective)
Faustian
so we have this bargain, you can call it ~ if you want (with tech)
Faustian bargain
Obama made a ~ with the Republicans to…
he accused them of striking a ~ to regulate…
fate, fortune & chance: allusion / person

favorite son
favorite son
he was welcomed to Ireland like a ~ (Obama)
worth & lack of worth: family

person: family

fealty (noun)
fealty to the Constitution
Republicans took control of the House with a show of ~
fealty to Israel
she has criticized those who demand that she show ~ (Omar Ilhan)
allegiance, support & betrayal: royalty

feast (feast for the eyes)
feast for the eyes
it was a ~
appearance: food & drink

feast (feast to famine)
feast to famine
it was ~ in a couple of weeks (laid-off tech worker)
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink

feather (ruffle feathers)
ruffled some feathers
he ~s and bruised egos (a general)
ruffled feathers in Washington
he ~ with his warnings (a diplomat)

feeling, emotion & effect: animal / bird

febrile (adjective)
febrile atmosphere
the judge postponed the trial so it could take place in a less ~
febrile (political) environment
in that ~ (Arab Spring)

activity: health & medicine / temperature
feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / temperature

fed up

fed up
he got ~ and quit the team
~, his wife challenged him to…
people really felt ~ (government corruption)

fed up with being stereotyped
pensioners are ~ on TV as grumpy or sweet

fed up with (growing) hordes
people are ~ of homeless people begging on their streets

fed up with incumbents
the electorate is ~ (elections)

fed up with the police
people are ~ (slow response times)

fed up with their (justice) system
polls show that Mexicans are ~

fed up with the (preferential) treatment
inmates are ~ she's been getting (a jailed celebrity)

fed up with the lack of progress
the commission, ~, gave both parties a year to accept

feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink
consumption: food & drink

feed (fuel)
feeds the insurgency
government corruption ~

feed extremism
how poverty may ~ (Morocco)

feeds lawlessness and instability
Afghanistan's immense opium harvest ~

increase & decrease: food & drink / verb
consumption: food & drink / verb

feed (direct)

feed intelligence to airlines
the US will now ~ (terrorist watch lists)

**directing: food & drink / verb**

**feed (supply)**

fed Mayorga a (steady) diet
he ~ of left hooks and right hands (De La Hoya)

fed the Germans (fake) gossip
Elvira Chaudoir ~ (World War II)

feeds the (fast farm) empire
the canal ~ of the Imperial Valley

**supplying: food & drink / verb**

**consumption: food & drink / verb**

**feed (satisfy)**

feed the (public) appetite
the Y has increased the number of debates to ~
tap, feed and nurture
he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)

**wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

**consumption: food & drink**

**feed (feed on / off / into something)**

fed on his antics
the tabloid media have ~ for years (a celebrity)
feed on fear
they ~ of immigrants (extremists)
feeds on itself
fear ~
feeds off such (public) anger
the group ~ (collateral damage)
feeds off ignorance
he's the type who ~ (a radio commentator)
feed off the misery
there are predators who ~ of the refugees
feed into a (broader public) discontent
concerns about unions ~ with powerful institution
feeds into (the deepest) fears
his speech ~
feeds into stereotypes
his article ~ of American Muslims
feed into and off of
they ~ of the anger of people (preachers)

**consumption: food & drink**

**increase & decrease: food & drink**

**supplying: food & drink**

**feed (feed into)**

feed into the Owyhee
these streams ~ (Idaho river)

**branching system: river / verb**

**feed (video, etc.)**

feeds off the Web
TVs can receive video ~

video feed
tap into the ~ between…(two cities);
TVs can receive ~’s off the Web
live feed
monitored a ~ from their console video screens
reporters in another room reported on the ~ (Oscars)

**feed (other)**

feed automatically
remaining towels ~ for next use (from canister)

auto feed (m)
~ function (paper shredder)

**feedback**

feedback
the company takes ~ from them
your ~ will help us
~ makes clear the connection between…
give your team members ~ they can act on

feedback on their strengths and weaknesses
tests give them ~ (students)

feedback about their performance
give corrective ~ (teachers)

feedback loops
complex ~ (AI / computers)

consumer feedback
user-opinion sites offer ~

customer feedback
text mining software to analyze ~
corrective feedback
give ~ about their performance (teachers)

immediate feedback
achievement is higher when kids receive ~ (school)

regular feedback
~ is more desirable than sporadic feedback (schools)

sporadic feedback
regular feedback is more desirable than ~ (schools)

give (corrective) feedback
~ about their performance (teachers)

provides feedback
the teacher ~ (during seatwork assignments)

**feeling (sinking feeling)**

sinking feeling
I had a ~ (on a date)
A sinking feeling in the pit
I had a ~ of my stomach (about to lose)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
think on their feet
they must be able to ~ (Green Beret trainees)
land on my feet
my family calls me Kat because I always ~ (survivor)
landed on his feet
he ~ (fired, but found a better job)
get back on its feet
the department is beginning to ~ (university)
get back on their feet
people need help to ~
get back on your feet
this will help you ~ (medicine)
got (back) on his feet
he finally ~ financially

resiliency: foot
amelioration & renewal: foot

feet (get one's feet wet)
get her feet wet
it's a chance for her to ~

experience: water

feet (feet first)
feet first
the soldiers came out of the hospital, ~ (yellow fever)

death & life: foot
euphemism: death & life

feisty (adjective)
feisty (TV) debate
the candidates' divisions were laid bare in the ~
♦ This word can have good and bad connotations. A feist is a small hunting dog, sometimes used in the Southern Appalachians to hunt bear. They can range through the laurel and rhododendron easier than larger dogs.

color & personality: animal / dog

fell (verb)
fells Navy skipper
video scandal ~

destruction: direction / verb

fence (division)
good fences
~ make good neighbors
division & connection: fence

fence (mend fences)
mending fences
he is ~ (trying to re-establish broken trust)
mend fences with the Arab countries
he started to ~ (Abdullah of Jordan)
mend fences with Great Britain
the State Department is trying to ~
amelioration & renewal: fence / verb

fence (straddle the fence)
straddling the (diplomatic) fence
the Yemeni leader is ~ (US vs. Iraq)
allegiance, support & betrayal: fence

fence (fence-straddling)
fence-straddling politician
he's just another ~
♦ The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence!
allegiance, support & betrayal: fence
ferment (noun)
ferment and activity
there is a great deal of ~ in Iran
cultural ferment
it was a time of ~ (Russian poetry)
activity: alcohol
ferret (ferret out)
ferreted out the (hidden) information
they ~
searching & discovery: animal / verb
fester (verb)
fester
better to correct now than to let the situation ~ (relationship)
festering for years
these problems have been ~
hated fester
~
corruption: health & medicine / verb
fetish (noun)
fetish for manufacturing
they both share a ~ (politicians)
turned him into a fetish
the Republicans have ~ (Ronald Reagan)
importance & significance: religion
fetishize (verb)
fetishize (military) funerals
we ~ so we can continue to allow our kids to be killed
fetishize the work
we ~ of great artists as somehow mythical (music)
importance & significance: religion / verb
feud (noun)
family feud
a long and bitter ~ over the estate of Jimi Hendrix
this exposes a real ~, a generational divide (Democratic party)
academic feud
this ~ began to poison the project (undersea mapping)
bitter and long-running feud
the bloody culmination of a ~ (cop / citizen)
feud between (next-door) neighbors
a ~ led to a confrontation
flare-up of their long-running feud
the latest ~ (2 NASCAR drivers)

♦ The Howards and the Turners; the Hatfield and the McCoys; the Frenches and Eversoles; the Martins and Tollivers; the Bakers and Howards... (Famous Appalachian family feuds.)
♦ “Don't get me wrong: I have nothing against the Campbells, but I would not stay a night in the company of one.” (Said by a MacDonald recently, referring to a massacre of MacDonalds by Campbells after the Campbells had accepted the MacDonalds' hospitality. The murders took place in 1692.)

conflict: violence
fever (fever tree, etc.)
fever tree
yellow-tinged trunks of the ~ glow (Kruger Park)
proper name: health & medicine
fever (behavior)
cabin fever
~ plagues Vermont all winter
people are getting ~

football fever
get ready for ~ (English Premier League start)
lottery fever
~ draws people from surrounding states (to buy tickets)
soccer fever
Germany has Fussballfieber—~ (2006 World Cup)
spring fever
September is the evil twin of ~
summit fever
they call it "~" (failure to summit not an option)
war fever
every few decades, the US catches a case of foreign "~"
Super Bowl fever
not everyone is caught up in ~
"go fever"
we do not want to get ~ (shuttle launches)
patriotic fever
crowds energized with ~ (the Olympics)
yellow fever
some men have ~ (lust for Oriental women)
importance & significance: religion / verb
feverish (adjective)
feverish activity
it is now the scene of ~ (a disaster)
feverish talk
the ~ of an imminent attack has ebbed (military)
activity: health & medicine / temperature
feverishly
feverishly courting
she has been ~ black voters
working feverishly
we are ~ (disaster relief)
the US is ~ behind the scenes (diplomacy)
worked feverishly
doctors ~ to save him
activity: health & medicine / temperature
fever pitch (noun)
reached a fever pitch
speculation ~… (possible military action)
activity: health & medicine / temperature
fiery (character)
fiery (clubhouse) leader
he is their ~ (an athlete)
fiery preacher
the ~ has died at 91
fiery temperament
the son inherited his father's ~
fiery and brash
she is ~
character & personality: temperature
initiation: fire / temperature
field (verb)
fielding calls
he had been ~ about the accident most of the night
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sports & games / verb
fiery (speech)
fiery debate
heated words were exchanged during the ~
fiery denunciation
the charges resulted in ~s of labor unions
speech: temperature
initiation: fire / temperature
fight (verb)
fighting urban blight
the group is devoted to ~ (buildings)
fighting to beat back
Yahoo and AOL are ~ spammers
♦ "It's an uphill battle... We're gonna fight him in congress, we're gonna fight in the courts, and I believe that a large segment of the American public will fight the president on this." (Democratic representative Joaquin Castro of Texas, channeling his inner Winston Churchill.)
conflict: military / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb
fighter (street fighter)
street fighter
can hope, change and unity beat Trump, or do you have to be a ~
some wonder if he is the ~ they want or need (candidate)
conflict: person / violence
strength & weakness: person / violence
fig leaf
fig leaf to cover
democracy is only a ~ the powers of capital
fig leaf for its (geopolitical) ambitions
the US uses the UN as a ~
fig leaf for imperialism
democracy is a ~
fig leaf for (US) occupation
the Afghan elections are a ~
fig leaf for politicians
the reform bill is a ~ opposed to any serious action
fig leaf for (US) withdrawal
"Vietnamization" was a ~
fig leaf for profiteering
philanthropy is often a ~
under the fig leaf of comedy
he hides his conservatism ~
♦ Clement XIII covered the genitalia of the Vatican's nudes with fig leaves.
concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories
substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories
figurehead (noun)
figureheads
the old play-writing establishment and its ~
figurehead of the Somali community
she became a ~ in Canada
representation: boat
filter (verb)
filter the news
the Chinese ~
discussion, removal & resignation: air / hygiene / water
filthy (bad)
filthy habit
smoking is a ~
filthy lucre
I am not immune to the lure of ~ (a writer)
worth & lack of worth: hygiene
**filthy (filthy rich)**
filthy rich
there's rich and then there's ~
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: hygiene

**filthy (corruption)**
filthy business
  greed has turned our health-care system into a ~
filthy mess
  we must clean up this ~ (Wall Street)
filthy politics
  we have seen eight years of ~
corruption: hygiene

**filthy (sex)**
filthy joke
  he cracked ~s
filthy mind
  people who see sex in this have ~s
  old people have ~s, too
filthy piece of trash
  the book is a ~ ("Lolita" by VN)
called the play filthy
  Comstock ~ ("Mrs. Warren's Profession by GBS)
sex: hygiene

**finale (noun)**
finale
  you've just seen the first act, the ~ is yet to come (trial)
development: theater

**find (a date can find us, etc.)**
found the travelers in Rome
  August 12 ~
fictive meeting & seeing: verb

**fine-tune (verb)**
fine-tune a search
  you can ~ by using wildcards (computers)
fine-tune scripts
  she can ~
fine-tuned the work in progress
  together they ~
amelioration & renewal: music / verb

**finger (accusation)**
finger of blame
  he points the ~ at his business partner (trial)
finger of guilt
  circumstantial evidence also pointed the ~ in this man’s direction
accusing finger
  it's easy to point an ~
  the ~ has been pointed in every direction
accusation & criticism: finger

**finger (slip through one's fingers)**
slipped through their fingers
  he ~ (a criminal)
attainment: finger / hand / verb

**finger (in the snap of a finger)**
went from 0 to 60 in the snap of a finger
  he ~ (car driver)
speed: sound

**finger (snap one's fingers)**
snap their fingers
  can they just ~ and make this happen (policy)
creation & transformation: finger / gesture / magic

**finger (point a finger)**
pointing fingers at the company
  people are ~
point fingers and criticize
  a lot of people want to ~ (disaster relief)
right to point fingers
  the US has no ~
accusation & criticism: finger / verb

**finger (lift a finger)**
lift a finger for him
  I wouldn't ~
help & assistance: finger / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: finger / verb

**finger (fingers crossed)**
fingers crossed
  ~, we go to Sunday full of energy (Liverpool FC)
keeping my fingers crossed
  I was ~ (mass shooting survivor)
fate, fortune & chance: finger / gesture / verb

**finger-pointing**
finger pointing
  there was much ~
  there is plenty of ~ going on (blame)
finger-pointing
  ~ began even before the fighting ended
  finger-pointing among Democrats
he’s going to take all this ~ (a politician)

I ~ on social media for that...

under fire for not arresting
the FBI is coming ~

Egypt recently came ~

Chinese mink farms have ~ for skinning minks alive

his judgment has repeatedly ~ (a prosecutor)

accusation & criticism: military / weapon
speech: weapon

fire (critical)

holding fire

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

speech: weapon

fire (under fire)

under fire

his judgment has repeatedly come ~

he is ~ after an unconfirmed report surfaced...

under fire for his policy
he has come ~ (visas)

under fire from (human rights) groups

Egypt recently came ~

come under fire
Chinese mink farms have ~ for skinning minks alive

his judgment has repeatedly ~ (a prosecutor)

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

speech: weapon

fire (draw fire)

drawing fire

the plan is ~

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

speech: weapon

fire (fire back)

firing back
Smollett is ~ and his legal team is digging in

fired back at her attackers
she ~

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

speech: weapon / verb

fire (flash fire)

flash fire of hope

he ignited a ~ (Obama)

amount & effect: fire

fire (hold somebody’s feet to the fire)

hold their feet to the fire

you’ve got to ~ (to get them to act)

hold the airline’s feet to the fire

he vowed to ~ (a regulator)

coercion & motivation: fire / verb
fire (on fire / feeling)
on fire
the team came out ~ (playing well)

feeling, emotion & effect: fire

fire (fire and desire, etc.)
fire and desire
they have some young players with ~ (soccer)

competitive fire
he admitted his ~s had been banked (pro athlete)

feeling, emotion & effect: fire

fire (light a fire under somebody)
lit a fire under him
we need to ~ (motivation)

lit a fire under that boy’s ass
whatever it was, something ~ (Shawshank Redemption)

coercion & motivation: fire / verb

fire (fuel on the fire, etc.)
fire of (toxic) political warfare
this will pour fuel on the ~

pour fuel on the fire
this will ~ of toxic political warfare

poured gas on the fire
the president ~ with a provocative tweet (sports issue)

throws gas on the fire
Palin ~ in Iowa (politics)

increase & decrease: fire

fire (play with fire)
playing with fire
you better be careful, you're ~

fate, fortune & chance: fire / verb

fire (catch fire)
caught fire
none of these websites have taken off and ~
the youth movement ~ (US / counterculture)
his campaign ~ in the spring (politics)
his senate race ~ in 2018 (politics)

initiation: fire

firebrand (person)
firebrands
~ rousing everyone up (lynching)

liberal firebrand
~ Elizabeth Warren took center stage at the heated forum

corruption & personality: fire / person

feeling, emotion & effect: fire / person

person: fire / temperature

fired up

fired up
I'm ~ and ready to go to the finals (victor)

feeling, emotion & effect: fire

fire up (verb)

fire up the Democratic foot soldiers
she wants to ~ (politics)

fire up the Democratic base
he wants to ~

feeling, emotion & effect: fire / verb

correction & motivation: fire / verb

firestorm

firestorm of criticism
the government is trying to respond to a ~

firestorm of envy
it would create a ~ (a transfer)

firestorm over his allegations
the ~ shows no sign of abating

media firestorm
his threat to burn the holy book caused a ~

political and public relations firestorm
his firing ignited a ~ (free-speech issue)

at the center of a (political) firestorm
the oil leak has put BP ~ (oil spill)

created a firestorm
the book has ~

ignited a (national) firestorm
he ~ with his blog post

set off a firestorm
he ~ of opposition when he…

found himself in a firestorm
he ~ after key investor withdrawals (hedge fund)

* "For the first time in my life I beheld a raging forest fire at close
quarters, a fearful spectacle! Enormous cedars, gripped by the flame,
were blazing like colossal torches. Beneath them, on the ground, was a
sea of fire. Everything was burning, grass, fallen leaves, trunks, logs,
stumps. We could hear living trees groan and burst from the heat. The
yellow smoke rolled upwards in enormous billows. Waves of fire raced
over the ground. Tongues of flame wound round the stumps and licked
the red-hot rocks… I saw a wild boar make his way across the river, a
big snake swim sinuously over, and a woodpecker flew from tree to tree
like a mad thing, while a nutcracker never ceased its raucous chatter…
(Dersu Uzala by V.K. Arseniev.)

amount & effect: fire

firing squad

literary firing squads
and then come the ~ (Amos Oz on criticism)

accusation & criticism / judgment: military
**firewall (computers)**

- **firewall**
  - upgraded the ~ that was supposed to keep hackers out
- **firewall program**
  - you can download a good ~ (computer)
- **firewall software**
  - Windows XP includes basic ~ (Internet security)
- **firewall, network and browser (m)**
  - flaws in its ~ settings (Windows)
- **Great Firewall**
  - the ~ of China can censor the Internet
- **high-security firewall**
  - ~s that protect secret data (computers)

**computer / protection & lack of protection: fire**

**fireworks (conflict)**

- **fireworks**
  - this congressional hearing was notable for its ~ (antagonism)

**conflict: explosion / sound / speech**

**firmament (noun)**

- **public-health firmament**
  - nobody in the ~ was doing anything (early days of AIDS)
- **star in the (neoconservative) firmament**
  - Bloom had become a ~

**environment: astronomy**

**fish (verb)**

- **fishing for information**
  - she was ~
- **fishing for referrals**
  - he is always ~ (a businessman)

**pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting / verb**

**fish (big fish)**

- **big fish**
  - the arrest is big progress because he is a ~ (LRA commander)
- **big fish in a small pond**
  - back home, I was a ~ (a model now in Miami)
    - "Back home I was a big fish in a small pond, but in Miami I'm just a minnow surrounded by sharks." (A model.)

**importance & significance: animal / fish / size**

**power: animal / fish / size**

**strength & weakness: animal / fish / size**

**size: animal / fish**

**fish (fish out of water)**

- **fish out of water**
  - I was a ~ out there (rookie NASCAR driver)

**environment: fish**

**fish (different kettle of fish)**

- **different kettle of fish**
  - we're a ~ (southeastern vs west Michiganders)

**taxonomy & classification: animal / fish / food & drink**

**fishbowl (in a fishbowl)**

- **works in a fishbowl**
  - everyone in media today ~ (criticism, etc.)

**environment: fish / water**

**fishbowl (other)**

- **fishbowl**
  - his office was a ~
  - she hated living in a ~ (a celebrity)

**environment: fish / water**

**fisheye**

- **fisheye view**
  - a ~ from Spirit's navigation camera shows… (Mars)

**perception, perspective & point of view: fish / position**

**fishtail (verb)**

- **fishtails**
  - the vehicle ~ under hard steering (rollover accidents)

**movement: animal / fish / verb**

**fishy (adjective)**

- **something fishy**
  - cops were pretty sure that ~ was going on
- **smells fishy**
  - something ~
- **smelled (very) fishy**
  - the timing ~ (article causes stock to plunge)
- **something fishy**
  - he noticed ~ (a scam)
- **noticed something fishy**
  - he ~ (a scam)
  - "There's something dead up the branch." (A Southern Appalachians expression.)

**suspicion: animal / fish**
fissure

deep fissure
the resignations revealed a ~ among Afghan leaders
division & connection: ground, terrain & land

fist (armored fist, etc.)

armored fist
the ~ of the tank-heavy 1991 Persian Gulf War
driving force: fist

fist (with an iron fist)

rules with an iron fist
he ~
ran the company with an iron fist
he ~
treated with an iron fist
some patients are ~ (mentally ill, etc.)
oppression: fist

fit (adjective)

fit to stand trial
a psychiatrist determined that she was ~
ability & lack of ability / flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine

fit in (verb)

fit in
he ~ well (a teammate)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mechanism

fitness (ability)

fitness to practice
aging doctors’ ~ has come under question
fitness for office
some question his ~
fitness of Thomas
the association split on the ~ for the Supreme Court
reproductive fitness
~ is a factor in evolution

spiritual fitness
the Army now assesses the ~ of troops (US)
spiritual-fitness (m)
soldiers are suing to eliminate the ~ assessment (US)

ability & lack of ability: body / health & medicine
flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine

fix (verb)

fix it
the economy is broken, and Obama can’t ~
fix relations
the US is trying to ~ (with Pakistan)
amelioration & renewal: mechanism

fix (noun)

daily fix
news junkies can get a ~ (Web site)
enthusiasm: addiction

fizzle (fizzle out)

fizzled out in the playoffs
the team ~

failure, accident & impairment: explosion / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: explosion / verb

flabby (adjective)

flabby reasoning
but this is ~

strength & weakness: health & medicine
flag (false flag)

false flag for the election
is it a Likud ~ (a provocation)

subterfuge: flags & banners

flag (plant one’s flag)

planting my flag
this is what should happen, this is where ~, we must do this
planted his flag in that stretch of cyberspace
he ~, declaring that... (defending his company)

resistance, opposition & defeat: flags & banners / military
commitment & determination: flags & banners / military

flag-bearer

party’s flag-bearer
the decision shortened his run as his ~ (politics)

representation: flags & banners

flagpole (run something up the flagpole)

run it up the flagpole
when you ~ for review

running up the flag pole
the administration is ~ the idea of a tax that... (but it’s just an idea)

experimentation: atmosphere / flags & banners
attention, scrutiny & promotion: atmosphere / flags & banners

flagship (superlative)

flagship dealership
Mercedes-Benz USA is building a ~ (330,000 sq/ft)
flagship fund
investors are withdrawing from his ~

flagship imprint
he will control the company's ~, Simon & Schuster

flagship (public) institution
the university is a ~

flagship product
the car competes with similar ~s

flagship restaurant
he is moving his ~ to the Left Bank (Guy Savoy)

flagship shows
CBS has announced major changes to its ~ (news, anchors, etc.)

flagship (E-commerce) site
the company's ~

flagship store
Ralph Lauren's new ~ on Madison Avenue
Macy's ~ in Herald Square

flagship universities
the drive for diversity at ~ (US)

* HMS Victory was Lord Nelson's flagship at the Battle of Trafalgar.
J.M.W. Turner's great painting "The Fighting Temeraire" (1839) is an elegy for the great ships of the line. But they live on in the language.

superlative: boat

flak (criticism)
taken (heavy) flak for suggesting
she had taken ~ … (an academic)
catch flak for the photo shoot
yeah, I do ~, and I totally don't care

accusation & criticism: military / weapon

flame (attraction)
flame to (a good many) moths
he was certainly a candle ~ (Lord Byron and women)

attraction & repulsion: fire / light & dark

flame (up in flames)
up in flames
with yet another relationship ~, all bets are off (marriage)

failure, accident & impairment: fire

flame (conflict)
flames of division
this senator sought to further fan the ~
flames of intolerance
extremists are stoking the ~
flames of revolt
Libya is going up in the ~
fanning the flames

his policies are ~ (of Arab rage)
fuel the flames
don't ~ (a controversy)
stoking the flames
extremists are ~ of intolerance

conflict: fire

flameout
complete flameout
he had a ~

failure, accident & impairment: engine / plane

starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / plane

flame out (verb)
flame out
it's a trend that's unlikely to ~ (vaping)

failure, accident & impairment: engine / plane

starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / plane

flare (verb)
flares in the Delta
political violence regularly ~ (Nigeria / oil, etc.)
flared on (Russia's) border
fighting ~ with Georgia today…
flared for a third day
Christian-Muslim violence ~ in Kaduna
flared into violence
pent-up frustrations have ~ (Nigeria)
flared with a new ugliness
racial hatred has ~
flared sporadically
sectarian violence has ~ across the country (Nigeria)
conflicts will flare
generational ~ (baby boomers vs. Gen X, etc.)
fighting flared
~ on Russia's border with Georgia today…
issue has flared
the ~ in the wake of 2 incidents (fans invade field)
temper flare
the appropriate response when ~ in business meetings
temper flared
at airports, ~ (weather delays)
~ as the team wilted (sports)
temper is flaring
~ over the oil spill
tensions (with Georgia) flared
the latest ~ on July 27 when…
uprising flared
an ~ after the cancellation of a general election (Algeria)
caused tempers to flares
   police said the hot weather ~

initiation: fire / verb
flare up (verb)
flare up
   a few years ago his asthma started to ~
battles have been flaring up
   biker ~ around California and the West…
controversy flared up
   since the ~ over the issue (eating dog meat)
unrest flared up
   serious ~ following the killing of protestors

initiation: fire
flare-up (noun)
flare-up
   drawing lessons from the ~
   Muslim prayers at the shrine passed without a ~
flare-up of their (long-running) feud
   the latest ~ (2 NASCAR drivers)
border flareup
   a war, a skirmish, a ~
current flareup
   the ~
latest flare-up
   the ~ of their long-running feud (2 NASCAR drivers)
war, skirmish, or a (border) flareup
   a ~

initiation: fire
flashpoint
flashpoint of the (civil-rights) era
   Philadelphia, Mississippi was a ~ (murders)
flashpoint of resistance
   Fallujah has been a ~ to occupation (Iraq)
flash point of (two) wars
   Kashmir has been the ~
flashpoint in this debate
   the ~ was…
flashpoint for (racial) antagonism
   the book was a ~
flashpoint for violence
political flashpoint
   her murder has become a ~ (by illegal immigrant)
become a flash point
   his suicide has ~ (teacher and education)

initiation: fire
flatfooted (caught flatfooted)
caught the army flatfooted
   the insurgency ~ (Iraq)
c caught flatfooted
   the Defense department can't be ~ (contingency plans)
   we were ~, we never saw it coming (Uber’s success)
readiness & preparedness: foot / standing, sitting & lying
flatline (verb)
caused her relationships to ~
   fame ~
failure, accident & impairment: death & life / verb
destruction: death & life / verb
flattened (emotion)
flattened
   you will be ~ by the end of the movie, you’ll be floored
feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability
flavor (flavor of the month)
flavor-of-the-month (m)
   the requirements have a ~ feeling (demands on nurses)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: taste
flavor (other)
flavor of youth
   no other book better catches the ~ in wartime
local flavor
   crowds prefer musical theater with a ~ (Singapore)
regional flavor
   the race has a ~ now (running)
American flavor
   audiences are enjoying the festival’s ~ (ballet in Cuba)
Southern flavor
   the one-man show is rich with ~
1970s flavor
   all the running added to the game’s ~ (football)
character & personality: taste
flawed (adjective)
flawed
   the studies turned out to be ~
   he was not a mean man but he was ~
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances
flawless (adjective)
flawless
   his performance was ~ (sports)
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances
fledgling
defledgling democracy
    support for Nigeria's ~
    Iraq's ~ seems to be coming of age
defledgling firm
    most of these ~s will fail (dot-coms)
defledgling government
    foreign aid to help the ~ (Afghanistan)
defledgling (electronic publishing) market
    the ~
defledgling sport
    if the ~ can take off (snowkiting)
defledgling space station
    the three batteries were ferried to the ~

Man: That's pretty good for a fledgling charity. Woman: 'Fledgling'? I'm impressed. (Dialog from an episode of Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.)
growth & development: bird
flee (verb)
flee the heat and humidity
    they ~ (Egyptians go to the coast)
abandon & separation: walking, running & jumping / verb
fleeced
getting fleeced
    we are ~ (universities, by academic publishers)
taking & removal: sheep
flesh (inside)
fruit's flesh
    the mango skin ripping away from the ~
white flesh
    foods with ~ include apples and pears
♦ Foods with white flesh include apples, pears, bananas, cauliflowers, and cucumbers. Eating them may reduce the risk of a stroke.
orientation: skin, muscle, nerves & bone
resemblance: skin, muscle nerves & bone
flesh and blood
flesh and blood
    when he discusses a film, it becomes ~
substance & lack of substance: death & life / skin, muscle, nerves & bone
flesh out (verb)
flesh it out
    this is a skeleton, you need to ~ (an essay)
substance & lack of substance: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb
fleshed out
fleshed out by his experience
    his approach is ~ of being in the White House
fleshed out quickly
    the program contains little of substance and must be ~
substance & lack of substance: skin, muscle, nerves & bone
flex (muscle, etc.)
flexes a lot of (political) influence
    Boeing ~ in Washington, D.C.
flex its muscles
    North Korea might ~
flexing its muscles
    the religious right is ~ in the corridors of power
flexing its (geopolitical) muscles
    Iran is increasingly ~
flexed its (political) muscle
    the Eastern Band has visibly ~ (Cherokee)
power: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb
flexible (adjective)
flexible
    natural gas is not as ~ a commodity as oil
flexible approach
    a ~ allows mission crews to modify plans (military)
flexible (retirement) plan
    a more ~
flexible (work) schedule
flexible and convenient (m)
    a ~ way to get your college degree
more flexible
    people's moral codes are ~ than generally understood
fast and flexible
    the air Volcano is ~ (military)
rigid versus a flexible (m)
    commanders must weigh the benefits of a ~ plan
constraint & lack of constraint: materials & substances
ability & lack of ability: materials & substances
flexible (character)
flexible
    being ~ is an important survival skill (new economy)
flexible in their ability
    some elderly are less ~ to change their attitudes
flexible leader
    agility requires quick-minded, ~s (military)
quick-minded, flexible (m)  
agility requires ~ leaders (military)

category & personality: materials & substances  
ability & lack of ability: materials & substances  
resiliency: materials & substances

flimsy (adjective)

flimsy charges  
prominent political leaders were jailed on ~

flimsy at best  
the evidence is ~

strength & weakness: materials & substances  
substance & lack of substance: materials & substances  
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

flinch (verb)

flinch in our coverage  
it was important not to ~ (AIDS)

courage & lack of courage: bodily process / verb  
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bodily process / verb  
control & lack of control: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

flip (verb)

flip the blame  
they try to ~ (sex abuse)

flipped seats  
she is one of those Democrats who ~ in 2018

reversal: direction / verb

flip-flopping (reversal)

reputation for flip-flopping  
he has a ~ (a politician)

reversal: direction

flirt (verb)

flirting with bankruptcy  
we're ~

flirted with disaster  
he ~

fate, fortune & chance: love, courtship & marriage / verb  
attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / verb

float (a plan, etc.)

float (immigration reform) plan  
Democrats ~

experimentation: atmosphere / balloon

flaked as a possible presidential contender  
she was ~ in 2016 (politics)

flock (verb)

flocked to Karbala  
Shia pilgrims ~ for the climax of Ashura

flock to Bahrain and Dubai  
Saudis ~ to celebrate the New Year

flocked to Parker  
black teenagers from all over ~ (a Birmingham school)

flocked to the polls  
Southern Sudanese ~ (vote on succession)

flocked to cooling centers  
New Yorkers ~ (heat wave)

behavior: animal / bird / sheep / verb

flog (criticize)

flog CNN  
Trump has used it as a reason to ~ (leaked interview questions)

♦ The Fatal Shore: The epic of Australia's Founding by Robert Hughes details the horrible use of flogging. Men would be flogged to death, survivors might have the white bones of their shoulder blades in the back permanently exposed, and the flogger would work spattered with blood and bits of flesh. Two hundred strokes were common.

punishment & recrimination: speech / verb / violence / whip

flood (amount)

flooded the state with ads  
the union ~ (elections)

flood the market with (boring) options  
businesses that ~

flood all forms of the media with depictions  
they ~ of sex (ads)

flood the country with (good) governance  
the strategy is to ~ (USAID / Afghanistan)

flooded highways with (coal) trucks  
China's policy has ~ (electricity)

flooded the Nation Mall  
crowds ~ (rally)

flooding south  
guns are ~ (to Mexico, from the US)

flood the area  
as undocumented workers ~ (a town in Arkansas)

flooded (neighboring) states  
2 million Iraqis have ~ (Jordan, Egypt, etc.)

applications (for asylum) flooded in  
19,000 ~ (Zimbabweans in S. Africa)
flood (move)

flooded onto the island
as thousands of new workers ~ (Sakhalin)
flooded into (booming) Shenzhen
millions of jobseekers ~ (China)
flooded into Uzbekistan
70,000 ethnic Uzbeks have ~ (from Kyrgyzstan)

movement: flood / river / verb / water

flood (flood of refugees, etc.)
flood of beggars
at the end of each Haj, Jeddah is invaded by a ~a ~ around mosques and markets asking for money
flood of calls
I've had a ~ from people who say…
flood of (passenger) complaints
a ~ (plane flights)
flood of (genetic) data
aided by a ~
flood of emotions
when I read the letter, a ~ came back to me
flood of (cheap) heroin
Uzbek volunteers fight a ~
flood of (newly unleashed) hormones
caught up in a ~ (middle schoolers)
flood of leads
the media attention generated a ~ (criminals on loose)
flood of (Chinese) immigrants
Tibetan exiles fear the rail line will unleash a ~
flood of (conflicting) information
the public was being inundated by a ~ (epidemic in US)
flood of (new) inmates
new prisons for the ~ (US)
flood of memories
the trial has brought back a ~ (murder)
a ~ burst through the psychological dam he had built
flood of (uniformed) officers
a ~ washed over the thicket (body)
floods of refugees
fighting has sent new ~ across the border
flood of (new accommodation) requests
if there's a ~ (SAT)
flood of tourists
controlling the ~ visiting Kartchner Caverns
flood of waste
short-term projects to stem the ~ (Kabul)
became a flood
the trickle of surrendering soldiers ~
become a flood
it's a constant trickle that threatens to ~ (email inbox)
stem the flood
projects to ~ of waste (Kabul slums)
unleash a flood
Tibetan exiles fear the rail line will ~ of Chinese
inundated by a flood
the public is being ~ of conflicting information

In 2009, over one hundred people died in flash floods in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, one of the driest countries on earth. “Rivers know their way,” is an old Jeddawi saying. Jeddah is home to five wadis or valleys that carry rainwater from the mountains to the Red Sea.

flooded

flooded with (e-mail) messages
the company was ~
flooded with ads, calls and pamphlets
voters were ~ (elections

amount & effect: flood / river / water

floodgate (open the floodgates)

opened the floodgates
the court's ruling ~, raising questions about whether…
opened the floodgates to (million-dollar) contracts
in the 1970's, Steinbrenner ~ (baseball)
open the floodgates to people
this will ~ who want to beat the system
opened the floodgates to more upheaval
the miners' action has ~

amount & effect: dam / flood / river / water

obstacles & impedance: dam / flood / river / water
constraint & lack of constraint: dam / flood / river / water
portal: dam / flood / river / water

floodgate (other)

floodgates of the past
his dark moods open up the ~ (a boxer)
floodgates for misuse
the ~ are wide open (euthanasia law)
emotional floodgates
once he starts telling his story, the ~ open
floodgates opened
I told him to use street language and the ~ (writing class)
in his 60s the ~ with an outpouring of new poems (Geoffrey Hill)
floodgates were flung (wide) open
in 1985, the ~ when… (guided climbs up Mount Everest)
Floodgates control the level and flow of water, particularly in dams. If the water level gets too high behind a dam, engineers will open the floodgates to lower the level of the reservoir. Floodgates can also keep tidal surges out.

amount & effect: dam / flood / river / water
obstacle & impedance: dam / flood / river / water
constraint & lack of constraint: dam / flood / river / water
portal: dam

**floodtide**

Floodtide of (school-age) children
sub-Saharan Africa's 45 countries face a ~

floodtide of filth
a ~ has engulfed the newsstands (pornography)

*At floodtide, the water is coming in towards the beach or coast.*

amount & effect: sea / tide / water

**floodwaters**

stop the floodwaters
we are trying to ~ (immigration)

amount & effect: flood / river / water

**floor (pelvic floor, etc.)**

pelvic floor
her ~ was so weak that she peed all over the set (actor)

orientation: direction / house

**floor (low point)**

ceiling and the floor
his numbers have been durable, the ~ (president’s popularity)

increase & decrease: direction / height / house

**floored (emotion)**

floored
you’ll be flattened by the end of the movie, you’ll be ~

feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability

**flourish (verb)**

flourished from his first day
he ~ (in his new job)

black market flourished
wages plummeted, and the ~

growth & development: plant / verb

**flow (move)**

flow across the (southwest) border
drugs ~ (from Mexico into US)

flow into theater
as corps forces ~ (military)

flow through Dubai
drugs from Afghanistan and Iran ~

flow from the RAS to the ~
supplies ~ (military)

flow around the obstruction
legitimate traffic could ~ (Internet)

flow south
the wealth from our land continues to ~ (Canadian Innuit)

flowing normally
traffic is ~

flow smoothly
the right aperitif will make your picnic ~…

money is flowing
military ~ to Boeing, Lockheed Martin and…

supplies flow
~ from the RAS to the… (military)

kept flowing
with only a few exceptions, traffic ~ (protest)

started flowing
after the merge lane was lengthened, traffic ~ normally

keeps the (combat) information flowing
this ~ rapidly to… (military)

movement: river / verb / water

**flow (increase)**

ebb and flow
gang killings ~ but never stop (Los Angeles)

increase & decrease: tide / verb / water

**flow (noun)**

flow of arms
stop the ~ into Macedonia

flow of capital
the ~

flow of the crowd
the ~ pushed him down the stairs (nightclub crush)

flow of diamonds
efforts to cut off the ~ through Taylor's network

flow of (illegal) drugs
the ~ into the US (from Mexico)

flow of goods
improve the ~ to its stores (a retail chain)

flow of information
control of the ~ (politics);
supports the free ~ (computers)
managing the ~ is another critical task (military)

flow of insurgents
shut down the ~ into Kashmir

flow of intelligence
try to improve how they manage the huge ~ (F.B.I.)
flow of the lesson
disciplinary actions should not interrupt the ~ (ed)

flow of materiel
intercept the ~ along Vietcong supply routes

flow of migrants
slowing the ~ (from Mexico to U.S.);
step up naval patrols to reduce the ~ (Italy and Libya)

flow of money
the ~ around the globe

flow of (government) money
the dwindling ~ (to hospitals)

flow of pilgrims
security forces tried to ensure a smooth ~ (Haj)

flow of supplies
it is prudent to start the ~ now (military)

flow of traffic
police directed the ~ around the accident scene;
regulate the ~ on MSRs (MPs / military)

flow of (pedestrian) traffic
the ~ can be regulated

flow of (illegal Chinese) workers
a more recent ~ (into France)

flow of E-mail
today's high-volume ~

flow of natural gas
Russia failed to restore the ~ (to Georgia);
the disruption in the ~ from fields in Siberia

flow of paperwork
an endless ~

flow of drugs and alcohol
stemming the ~ into Saudi Arabia

flow of goods, services
the ~ and investment capital (globalization)

flow of patients and visitors
control the ~ so that… (ED post terror event)

flow (of traffic) on MSRs
regulate the ~ (MPs / military)

flow (of arms) into Macedonia
stop the ~

flow (of alcohol) into Saudi Arabia
the authorities want to stem the ~

flow of drugs into Saudi Arabia
the authorities want to stem the ~

flow (of money) around the globe
the ~

flow through Boston
the project will improve traffic ~

flow (of information) between ACTs and troops
the ~ (military)

Flow Control
nicknamed, in typical FAA-speak, "~" (planes aloft)

cash flow
concern about the company's ~

cash-flow (m)
the ~ situation; he may have ~ problems

information flow
our economy is one that is increasingly based on ~

logistics flow
Figure 5-4 shows the ARSOA ~ (military)

traffic flow
solutions include rerouting ~

high-volume flow
today's ~ of E-mail

dwindling flow
the ~ of government money (to hospitals)

accelerated flow
the ~ of information in combat (laptops, com, etc.)

endless flow
an ~ of paperwork

even flow
establish an ~ of aircraft into maintenance… (military)

free flow
supports the ~ of information (computers)

paper flow
the ~ between headquarters and the field

smooth flow
security forces tried to ensure a ~ of pilgrims (Haj)

tempo and flow
the ~ of the game probably will come down to… (soccer)

trickle, flow, gush
we had a theory called, "~" (to rescue hostages)

facilitate the flow
ways to ~ of passengers through security (airports)

interrupt the flow
disciplinary actions should not ~ of the lesson (ed)

manage the (huge) flow
try to improve how they ~ of intelligence (F.B.I.)

reduce the flow
step up naval patrols to ~ of migrants

regulate the flow
~ on MSRs (MPs / military)

slow the flow
the objective is to ~ of forces into the area of operations
slowed the flow
controllers ~ of planes into O'Hare (labor dispute)

stanch the flow
he asked the elders to help ~ (of Somalis to Lewiston)

shut down the flow
~ of insurgents into Kashmir

go with the flow
just ~ (don't get upset, anxious, worried, etc.)

flow has slowed
the ~ to a trickle (migrants)

movement: river / water

flower (verb)
flowered intellectually
Island ~ (early centuries)

growth & development: plant / verb
flowering
flowering of creativity
this apparently abrupt ~ (European cave drawings)

growth & development: plant

flowing
flowing (black) abaya
she remained shrouded in a ~ (Doha)
flowing (white) beard
a farmer in a ~ trotted by on a tiny donkey

resemblance: water

flu (enthusiasm)
Oxford flu
interest in quantum computing has been called the ~

enthusiasm: health & medicine

fluid (adjective)
fluid and confusing
the situation on the ground is ~ (rebellion)

control & lack of control: water

flurry (activity)
flurry of (diplomatic) activity
we've seen a ~

flurry of trial balloons
his office floated a ~

flurries of requests
officials sent him ~ (a filmmaker)
♦ This word is often used to describe snow and leaves in the wind.

activity: flying & falling
amount & effect: flying & falling / rain

flush (remove)
flush them out
security services launched an operation to ~ (criminals)
flushed (some of the organization’s staff) from the city
the violence ~ (UN in Yemen)

dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / water

fly (on the fly)
make (good) decisions on the fly
he can ~ (a football player)

get science on the fly
we are having to ~

haste: bird / flying & falling

fly (fly into a rage, etc.)
flew into a (jealous) rage
he ~ (murderer)

flew into a (jealous) rage after finding
he ~ a text message…

flew into a rage over her refusal
he ~ to cooperate

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / flying & falling / verb

fly (activity)
flying off the rack
fur is ~ worldwide (fashion industry)

fly off the shelves
skin-whitening products ~ (Philippines)

fly off (store) shelves
the new product is ~

flying all over campus
rumors were ~ (students charged with rape)

flying around
there are plenty of gruesome rumours ~ over what happened

rumors flew
~ (campus gossip about surveillance cameras)

rumors fly
~ in small communities (Red Lake Reservation)

rumors were flying
~ all over campus (students charged with rape)

activity: bird / flying & falling / verb

fly (constraint)
let his imagination fly
he let his ~ (a poet)

constraint & lack of constraint: bird / flying & falling / verb
fly (time flies)
time flies
   ~ when you're having fun
time: movement / flying & falling
fly (fly on the wall)
fly-on-the-wall reporter
   he was a ~
surveillance: animal / Insect
focus (verb)
focusing on target genes
   he is ~ for schizophrenia
attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye / verb
focus (noun)
focus of the day
   the ~ differs within the strands of Christianity (Epiphany)
political and policy focus
   Republicans should keep the ~ on promoting job creation
ongoing focus
   there is an ~ on these economic issues (White House)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye
fodder (noun)
fodder for comedy
   his ridiculous ideas are ~
campaign fodder
   his gaffe has given Democrats ~
tabloid fodder
   his five marriages provided endless ~
content: farming & agriculture / plant
gossip: plant
fog (fog of war, etc.)
fog of battle
   in the ~ initial reports are often confusing
fog (and friction) of war
   in the midst of the ~
fog and friction
   soldiers must show initiative in the ~ of battle
fog and a friction
   there is a ~ to war (civilian deaths)
casualties of the fog of war
   innocents are sometimes the ~
attributed the tragedy to the fog of war
   an official ~ (lost convoy)
♦ The term, "fog of war," was coined in the era of black-powder rifles.
consciousness & awareness: fog / weather & climate
fog (mental fog, etc.)
fog of pain
   he listened, in a ~
fog lifts
   as soon as you make the mental shift, the ~ (probability)
put me in a fog
   the medications ~ (US)
consciousness & awareness: fog / weather & climate
foggy
recollection is foggy
   my ~ (testimony at trial)
consciousness & awareness: fog / weather & climate
fold (verb)
fold its case
   the House is not going to ~ (against Trump)
adadministration has folded
   the ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: cards / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: cards / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: cards / verb
curtailment: cards / verb
fold (to / into the fold)
brought him back into the fold
   Damenech ~ (soccer player on national team)
brought Egypt back to the (Arab) fold
   he ~ (Mubarak)
drew many into the (gang's) fold
money and power ~ (prison)
society: sheep
acceptance & rejection: sheep
follow (follow a feeling or emotion)
follow my instincts
   I can't do anything if I don't ~ (Saudi intellectual)
followed a (gut) instinct
   I ~ and chose to run the rapid (kayaker)
followed his passion
   he ~ (a windsurfer)
follow your passion
   that's part of the spirit of mountaineering, to ~
followed my curiosity and intuition
   I ~ (the young Steve Jobs / Apple)
feeling, emotion & effect: journeys & trips / movement / verb
follow (a path, route, road, etc.)
follow in Qeis’s path
he vowed he will ~ (suicide bomber)
follow its (relentless) course
if we sit back and let the epidemic ~
follow the direction
the investigation will ~ the evidence leads…
follow his lead
in a note, he urged his supporters to ~ (suicide bomber)
followed his (father’s) path
he eventually ~ (seminarian)
follow their (mothers’) paths
often, young prostitutes ~ into the sex trade
follow in his (murderous) footsteps
he is determined his son will not ~
follow in the footsteps
Aborigines must ~ of their ancestors

direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb
follow (argument)
follow you
I don’t ~

comprehension & incomprehension: journeys & trips / movement / verb
follow (a road can follow, etc.)
follows the shore
a road ~ of the lake

fictive motion: verb
follow-through (investigation, etc.)
follow-through
now we’re seeing some ~ (investigation)
starting, going, continuing & ending: foot
foot (on the right / wrong foot)
on the right foot
start the new year ~
on the wrong foot
their relationship began ~
we started the season ~ (sports)
got off on the wrong foot
I think he ~, but… (politics)
yes, Romney ”~” in Britain (Wall Street Journal)

starting, going, continuing & ending: foot
foot (on the back foot)
caught on the back foot
police admit they have been ~ by the protests

readiness & preparedness: foot
foot (one foot planted)
one foot (firmly) planted in the commercial world
their strategy is to have ~ and the other in the defense business (Boeing)

strength & weakness: foot
equilibrium & stability: foot
foot (put a foot forward)
put America’s best foot forward
an opportunity for us to ~ forward (Olympics)
put her best foot forward
she was determined to ~

representation: foot
foot (put one’s foot down)
put his food down
he ~ about another interview (said “No”)

**resistance, opposition & defeat: foot / verb**

**foot (foot in the door)**

get his foot in the door
he lied on his resume to ~

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds / foot**

**foot (foot in both worlds, etc.)**

foot in both worlds
people with a ~ (Chinese students in US)

**division & connection: leg / line / standing, sitting & lying**

**football (noun)**

political football
they are playing ~ with women’s health (politics)

cultural, political footballs
this has become one of those ~ (culture war kerfuffle)

**competition: football / sports & games**

**conflict: football / sports & games**

**foot-dragging**

foot-dragging by (school) officials
so why the ~ (reform)

bureaucratic foot-dragging
the test has been bogged down by squabbles and ~

**action, inaction & delay: foot**

**eagerness & reluctance: foot**

**foothold (noun)**

foothold
US forces established a ~ in…

foothold in the Caribbean
eliminate lymphatic filariasis from its last ~

Arctic foothold
the eight countries with ~s

last foothold
eliminate malaria and lymphatic filariasis from their ~

**presence & absence: foot / mountains & hills**

**survival, persistence & endurance: foot / mountains & hills**

**footholding (position)**

war footing
land forces could shift to a ~ on short notice

put the nation on a war footing
President Kennedy ~ (Cuban Crisis)

**position, policy & negotiation: foot / standing, sitting & lying**

**footholing (solid footing, etc.)**

on solid (financial) footing
he has never been able to put the review ~

on thin footing with the White House
he was already ~ (Secretary of Labor resigns)

**bases: ground, terrain & land**

**footing (find one’s footing, etc.)**

find their footing
politicians struggled to ~ in the new political landscape

found its footing
her campaign stumbled out of the gate but has since ~

regain our footing
we are struggling to ~ (a political party)

**bases: ground, terrain & land**

**equilibrium & stability: ground, terrain & land / walking, running & jumping**

**footprint (noun)**

footprint
Hezbollah has its ~ everywhere here (Tyre)

"footprint" of a credit card
the camera has the ~, weighing just 5.6 ounces

"footprint" of oil infrastructure
limiting the ~ (Arctic oil)

footprint on the environment
we might lighten our collective ~

footprint overseas
he wants to shrink the military and reduce its ~

footprint or signature
they don’t have a ~ (terrorists)

city footprint
this will affect the entire ~ (urban-renewal project)

consumption footprint
the enormous ~ of someone living in the state right now

noise "footprint"
they should have a smaller ~ than… (airplanes)

terrain footprint
the Stinger missile has a small ~

online footprint
his other ~ includes a site… (Web sites)

combat service support (CSS) footprint
the Stinger has a small ~

digital footprint
investigators are examining the case’s “~”
The ~ led cops to the suspect’s house (cell-phone towers)

industrial footprint
concerns about the ~ (drilling in Arctic)

large footprint
the ~ created when the minefield is fired (war)

due to the ~ when the minefield is fired...
larger "footprint"
  a tire with a ~ on the road has more rolling resistance
light footprint
  the coalition has limited its ambitions and kept a ~
military footprint
  we must reduce our ~ in Iraq (a politician)
small footprint
  the Stinger missile has a ~
reduce our (military) footprint
  we must ~ in Iraq (a politician)
shrink its footprint
  as the US military begins to ~ in Afghanistan

presence & absence: foot / ground, terrain & land

foot soldier (duty)

movement’s foot soldiers
  the ~ are less inhibited (alt-right)
Democratic foot soldiers
  fire up the ~ (for a coming election)

work & duty: foot / military / person
  person: military

footstep (in the footsteps)

in the footsteps of their ancestors
  Aborigines must follow ~
in his father’s footsteps
  he was going to follow in his ~
in their parents' footsteps
  too young to be thinking about following in their ~
in his murderous footsteps
  he is determined his son will not follow ~
follow in the footsteps
  Aborigines must ~ of their ancestors
follow in his (murderous) footsteps
  he is determined his son will not ~

direction: foot / journeys & trips / movement

footstep (retrace one’s footsteps)

retraced my footsteps in Haiti
  one year after the earthquake, I ~ (journalist)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: foot /
  movement / verb

for (support)

for you
  I am ~

allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle

force (show of force)

political show of force
  a campaign kick-off is a ~

closest: military

fore (come to the fore)

come to the fore
  issues of race have ~ (2020 presidential election)

center & periphery: direction

foreground (center)

to the forefront of the (death-penalty) debate
  he has been catapulted ~

center & periphery: direction

foreground (noun)

move to the foreground
  as the midterm elections ~ (news cycle)

moved into the foreground
  money has ~ (doctor-patient relationship)
pull nuclear energy into the foreground
  we need to ~
pushed the instrument into the foreground
  he has ~ (African musician)

center & periphery: direction

attention, scrutiny & promotion: picture

appearance & disappearance: picture

perception, perspective & point of view: picture

foreground (verb)

foregrounded his virtues
  he has lied about his crimes and ~ (a flawed individual)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: picture

appearance & disappearance: picture

perception, perspective & point of view: picture

forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)

forest of cranes
  I saw a ~ and, beyond them, skyscrapers

forest of stalactites
  a hanging ~ (Kartchner Caverns)
kelp forest
  the ~s off of California

stalagmite forest
  she threads her way through a ~ (underwater cave)

resemblance: forest

forge (verb)

forge an agreement
  we will do our very best to ~ (politics)
forged checks
she graduated to cocaine and ~ to support her habit
forge compromise
how hard it will be for him to ~ (a diplomat)
forged (new American) heroes
each test has ~ (natural disasters, mass shootings, etc.)

creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb
forged

forged from (nearly) a decade
doctrines ~ of fighting in both wars
forged in her own adversity
she was ~ (overcame a rare medical condition)
forged document
the terrorist groups have coordinated in acquiring ~s
forged notes
~ and other bogus documents
forged (immunization) records
many legal visitors carry ~ (Haj / Saudi)
forged (immigration) stamp
falsified passports and ~s (Singapore)
forged passports
foreign nationals entering the US with ~
forged transcripts and (recommendation) letters
~ (college)

creation & transformation: manufacturing
fork (a fork in the road, etc.)
at a fork in his career
he's ~

alternatives & choices: journeys & trips
direction: journeys & trips
fork over (verb)
forked over three hundred million dollars
the Saudis reluctantly ~

possession: food & drink / verb
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink / verb
formula

formula to satisfy
officials are seeking a ~ both sides (diplomacy)
formula for creating
he has to learn the American ~ (politics)
formula for maintaining
there is no neat ~ this balance (secrecy / press)
magic formula
there is no ~, but try… (predicting NCAA winner); we don't have a ~ for predicting wildfires
standard formula
the ~ of a romantic comedy
seeking a formula
negotiators were ~ to keep the talks going (diplomacy)

script: number
fort (noun)
hold down the fort
~ until reinforcements can be hired, trained (a company)

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military
fortress (noun)
fortress
terror concerns have turned public buildings into ~s
fortress mentality
a ~ that protects the home folks while… (public health)
neighborhood fortress
it is a ~ (a high school in South-Central LA)

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military
fortuneteller (person)
fortuneteller
are these things probable, I don’t know, I’m not a ~
stock analysts are modern-day ~s looking into crystal balls
fortune tellers
the latest pronouncement from the ~ (stock analysts)
modern-day fortune tellers
they are ~ promising riches (stock analysts, etc.)

future: person / magic
person: magic
forward (future)
forward
we will probably see this every year ~
going ~, who can predict what will happen (boxing)
go forward
this will not help us as we ~

future: direction / journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle / verb
forward (move forward, etc.)
go forward
drilling projects continue to ~
moved us forward
inventions that ~
move forward
we just want to ~, and hopefully change will come
moving forward
we are ~ in a cautious way (diplomacy)
things aren’t ~, we’re stuck (refugees)
things are ~ and they're moving quickly (many projects)
we are ~ with solutions on many issues (politics)

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

**forward-looking**

forward-looking approach
a ~ to marketing

perception, perspective & point of view: direction

**fossil**

to my computer is a ~ (very old)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence:** animal

past & present: animal

**foundation (noun)**

foundation of identity
in Egypt, nationalism and Arabism once were the ~

foundation in (native-language) literacy
a solid ~

foundation of (modern-language) literacy
being able to replicate results is the ~ (medicine)

foundation for success
brand loyalty is the ~ (business)
education is the ~ (life)

foundation narrative
the ~ of particular Native Nations (US)

solid foundation
a ~ in native-language literacy

foundations of (the postwar order) are cracking
the ~ in Europe (economies)

build a foundation
we help people ~ for the rest of their lives (ad for school)

built a foundation
we've ~ of distrust (Iran / US)

lay a foundation
you ~ for a sense of community

laid a foundation
we ~ to talk about those issues (diplomacy)

rests upon a foundation
our global role ~ of unmatched military power (US)

**bases:** house

**founder (verb)**

founded
the TV channel quickly ~
two previous tried have ~ in the courts
the plan ~ with depressed stock prices
the company ~ during the economic downturn

Spain's economy has ~

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

**destruction:** boat / sea / verb

**fountain (fountain of youth)**

looking for the fountain of youth
women and men are ~ (cosmetics, surgery, etc.)

*There is no real proof that Ponce de Leon sought the Fountain of Youth in America.*

**amelioration & renewal:** fountain / water

**fountain (resemblance)**

fountains of (bright red) lava
~ and towering clouds of ash

**resemblance:** fountain / water

**fountain (source)**

fountain of Islam
they come and drink from the ~ (mosque)

**source:** fountain / water

**fountainhead**

fountainhead of freedom
England was a ~ (Enlightenment)

fountainhead of (chamber) music
the festival was a ~ in America

fountainhead of ideas and discovery
the university has historically been a ~

fountainhead of ideals and law
Lincoln saw the Declaration of Independence as the ~

poetic fountainhead
Shakespeare was a ~

**source:** fountain / river / water

**fox (subterfuge)**

fox
the ~ is in the henhouse, and we invited it in

put the fox in charge of the henhouse
the FAA ~ (safety of Boeing planes)

*"They're going to burn the forest to kill the fox." (An Iraqi, speaking of US invasion to rid Iraq of Saddam.)*

**subterfuge:** animal / fox

**foxhole**

foxhole
while shivering in my ~ (Korean War)

wars are not always fought from a ~ (terrorism)
intruders worked their way to within 30 feet of ~s

foxholes, slit trenches and latrines
we dug ~ (military)

sandbagged foxholes
Marines brace in their ~ (Afghanistan)
checkpoints, bunkers and foxholes
abandoned ~ (Tikrit, Iraq)

♦ "There are no atheists in foxholes." (Father Cummings, Bataan.)
♦ In "Seldom Disappointed," the wonderful writer Tony Hillerman writes about his experiences in World War II. He writes that he always wondered who invented "the absurd lie" that there were no atheists in foxholes.

fracture (failure)

fracture in politics between elites and nationalists
there is a ~ (European Union)

failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances
fractured (separated)

fractured
the cartels are ~ and fighting over territory (Mexico)

division & connection: materials & substances
fray (verb)

fray the fabric
logging and roads ~ of nature
frayed (US-China) ties
many issues have ~

badly frayed
the incident ~ inter-Korean relations

bond frayed
their ~ almost to the breaking break
coalition frayed
the ~

consensus is fraying
the political ~

fibers (within the tendons) fray
the ~ (tendinopathies)

nerves are fraying
relationship frayed
the ~ over the past year (diplomacy)
began to fray
relations between the countries ~ in November

failure, accident & impairment: cloth / verb
flaws & lack of flaws: cloth / verb

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

conflict: military
behavior: direction
fray (conflict)
2020 fray
he is joining the ~ (running for president)

conflict: military
frayed
frayed by his rejection
their longtime alliance has been ~ of the bill
frayed by scandals
taxpayer confidence has been ~
frayed nerves
he experienced ~ and growing exhaustion
he tried to smooth the ~

frayed relations
Obama has worked hard to repair his ~ with…
he wants to rebuild ~ with neighbor Argentina

frayed (political) system
the two leaders promised to reform the country's ~
frayed ties
Obama is trying to smooth ~ with business leaders
badly frayed (m)
he sought to mend ~ relations between the two countries

seriously frayed
the social safety net is ~
become frayed
nerves can ~ in the blazing Antarctic winds
grow (yet more) frayed
an already strained social compact will ~

failure, accident & impairment: cloth
flaws & lack of flaws: cloth
free-fall (in free-fall)
in free fall
his life was ~
house prices continue to be ~ nationwide

decline: direction / flying & failing
free-fall (noun)
free fall in (air) travel
the ~ post-9/11 (due to fears of terrorism)

company's (financial) free fall
the ~ (into bankruptcy)
stock-market free fall
the ~ was harrowing to watch
financial free fall
the company's ~ (into bankruptcy)
mental freefall
he went into a ~ (murderer)

decline: direction / flying & failing
free-for-all (control)
free-for-all
space is a ~ right now (space pollution)
free-for-all of people
it is a ~ suggesting that...
free-for-all on what
it’s a bit of a ~ the government can do (facial recognition)

control & lack of control: sports & games
behavior: sports & games
freeze (verb)
freeze assets
~ of terrorists

frozen its (nuclear) tests
North Korea has ~

activity: snow & ice / verb
freeze (computers, etc.)
computer freezes
if your ~…

functioning: snow & ice
freeze (position of body)
hold the freeze
patrol members ~ until signaled to do something else

movement: snow & ice
freeze (activity)
freeze on (U.S.) aid
if that's the case, should there be a ~ (politics)
freeze on (high-level) contacts
the European Union recently ended its ~ with Iran
freeze on (all state) hiring
it would put a ~

price freeze
a ~ until 2002 (public utilities)
hiring freeze
   a ~ is often a last-ditch effort to reduce staff...

60-day freeze
   he asked for a ~ (on aid to Russia / politician)

put a freeze on (all state) hiring
   it would ~

freeze began to thaw when...
   the ~

activity: snow & ice
freeze out (verb)
   frozen Tomaz out of funding
   the Alpine Association had ~ (climber)

acceptance & rejection: temperature / verb
   inclusion & exclusion: temperature / verb

freighted
   freighted with (historical and cultural) baggage
   the N-word is ~ (racial epithets)

history: burden / journeys & trips / weight
   oppression: burden / journeys & trips / weight

frenzied (adjective)
   frenzied rumors
   the ~ have become so fierce that...

activity / behavior: health & medicine / mental health
frenzy (feeding frenzy)
   media feeding frenzy
   it was a ~

activity / behavior: predation
frenzy (other)
   media frenzy
   such was the ~ around the trial (national attention)

center of a (media) frenzy
   he is now the ~ (accusations of sex abuse)

whipped the snow into a frenzy
   the winds ~ (ground blizzard)

working themselves into a frenzy
   the fans are ~ (World Cup)

activity / behavior: health & medicine / mental health
fresh (adjective)
   fresh approach
      we need a ~ to this problem

fresh concerns
   the floods have sparked ~ over... (N. Korea)

amelioration & renewal: food & drink

freshman (adjective)
   freshman Democrat
   the 29-year-old ~

experience: school & education
friction (conflict)
   friction
      get along enough to avoid ~ in the office
      the ~ of 37,000 US troops (anti-Americanism in Korea)
      in one step to reduce ~ (US forces)

friction between cyclists and motorists
   ~ who have to share the road

friction between the LAPD and the residents
   decades of ~ (LA)

friction between pedestrians and motorists
   the road network has created ~

frictions between their camps
   ~ of advisors and loyalists (politicians)

friction between you
   there was obviously a lot of ~ (antagonism)

avoid friction
   get along enough to ~ in the office

Friction, it turns out, is the parent of the profit margin. The more you
   move toward a perfect market mechanism the fewer opportunities there
   are for anyone to make money.” (E-commerce.)

conflict: physics
friction (impedance)
   friction
      government rules are only one kind of ~ to free markets
      does e-commerce reduce ~, add convenience and...

trade friction
   ~ is channeled into the WTO's dispute settlement process

points of friction
   troops would pull back from ~

fog and a friction
   there is a ~ to war (civilian deaths)

obstacles & impedance: physics
frictionless
   frictionless travel
      the airlines' attempts to create ~

obstacles & impedance: physics
fringe (configuration)
   fringe of islets
      the lagoon, with its distant ~

broad fringe
   a ~ of sea ice builds each austral winter

configuration: cloth
fringe (edge)

fringe of the storm
wind and rain from the ~ lashed the state
fringes of the solar system
unmanned vehicles are zipping to the ~
desert's (southern) fringe
the ~
southern fringe
the desert's ~
eastern fringes
this country on the ~ of Europe (Ukraine)
southern and eastern fringe
the arc of deforestation along the ~ of the Amazon
outer fringes
icy rocks found on the ~ of the solar system
center & periphery: cloth
fringe (on the fringe)

on the political fringe
both groups arose ~ (Occupiers, Tea Party)
operate on the fringes
the Chinese gangs ~ (versus established gangs)
center & periphery: cloth
society: center & periphery
society: cloth
fringe (versus mainstream)

fringe Berlin
the restaurant is ~ at its best
fringe books
we are seeing fewer ~ and new authors (publishing)
fringe cult
he joined a ~
fringe dwellers
every society has its ~
fringe idea
animal liberation is no longer the ~ it once was
criminal fringe
the "one percenters" are the ~ of the biker world
lunatic fringe
the group is part of the ~
militant fringe
Turkey has been at war with the ~ of the Kurds
radical fringes
he is a figure on the most ~ of the movement
violent fringe
they are members of a nationalistic, sometimes ~
from the fringes into the mainstream
social media can push conspiracies ~
center: cloth
center & periphery: cloth
society: center & periphery
fringed

fringed by (mountain) peaks
the Salar de Uyuni is ~ (salt flat in Bolivia)
fringed with coral reefs
Kenya's southeast coastline is ~
palm-fringed (m)
a beautiful, ~ beach…
center & periphery: cloth
configuration: cloth
frog (frog in boiling water)

frog in the boiling water
ignoring the need to fix entitlement programs is the ~
* This fable illustrates the danger of changes that occur slowly.

framing, dealing with & ignoring things: allusion / animal / frog / temperature / water
environment: allusion / animal / frog / temperature / water
situation: allusion / animal / frog / temperature / water
consciousness & awareness: allusion / animal / frog / temperature / water
front (in front / future)

in front of her
she had her whole life ~ (committed a murder)
in front of us
we have these issues ~
future: direction
front (in front / proximity)

in front of us
the answer is ~
proximity: direction
front (conflict)

new front
a ~ in the president’s battle with congress is emerging
new front in the (overall) struggle
his indictment could be a ~ to get at what happened
two-front
he’s fighting a ~ campaign (Bernie Sanders)
on all fronts
the oil spill is being attacked ~
on several fronts
our efforts are advancing ~ (oil-spill cleanup)
conflict: military
front (front and center)
front and center
the wave of sex-abuse scandals will be ~ conference)
front and center on his mind
clearly this topic is ~
priority: direction / position
Importance & significance: direction / position
frontier (noun)
next frontier
deep fake videos are the ~ in fake news
push the frontiers
the US has always wanted to ~ (physics, etc.)
searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land
front line (on the front line)
on the front lines
state and local law enforcement ~
the dedicated people ~ (social services)
on the front lines of this battle
he is ~ (agency fighting spam phone calls)
on the front line of (interpersonal) violence
doctors are ~ (EM)
on the front lines of the drug crisis
they have been working on the ~
driving force: military
experience: military
front line
front line
in battles of identity, language often becomes the ~
frontline
the CDC is the ~ in any public health emergency
front-line workers
front-line caregivers
nurses are the ~
driving force: military
front-runner
front-runner
he is the ~
the ~ Barak Obama (politics)
front-runners for the job
there are two ~
front-runner for a (future Supreme Court) nomination
he is a ~
front-runners and underdogs
~ loved him (a race-car driver)
competition: sports & games / walking, running & jumping
frosty (adjective)
frosty relationship
he has a ~ with Netanyahu (diplomacy)
feeling, emotion & effect: snow & ice / temperature
frothy (substance)
frothy page-turner
the ~, the one book everybody is reading
substance & lack of substance: water
frown (verb)
frown on those things
we ~
frowned upon homosexuality
he came from a religious background that ~
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol / verb
judgment: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol / verb
frozen (movement)
frozen to the spot
we were all ~
movement: snow & ice
frozen (development)
frozen in time
Vietnam's Ha Giang Province remains ~
the Framers did not expect the Constitution to be ~
growth & development: snow & ice
frozen (activity)
frozen funds
is it time to release the ~ (sanctions)
activity: snow & ice / temperature
frozen out (excluded)
frozen out of discussions
they have been ~ about how the law will work (veterans)
inclusion & exclusion: snow & ice / temperature
fruit (product)
fruits of the field
the first ~ have been mundane (nanotechnology)
fruits of my labor
she carefully examined the ~ (a woodcarver)
fruits of that work
you are now seeing the ~ (war planning)
bore fruit
their protests ~ only after…
product: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant
fruit (low-hanging fruit)

low-hanging fruit
for people who want to consume less plastic, straws are ~
we need to look at some of the ~ and pluck them (help kids)
vacant lot greening is a piece of ~ (simple, low cost)
the expulsion of intelligence officers is ~ (symbolic only)
pick some ~ that can be accomplished (in tax reform)
he explores deeper cuts and textures, rather than ~ (music)

low-hanging fruit of international health
expulsion of intelligence officers is ~ (symbolic only)
pick some ~ that can be accomplished (in tax reform)

cost & benefit: fruits & vegetables / tree
difficulty, easiness & effort: fruits & vegetables / tree

fruitful (adjective)
fruitful approach
I decided that wasn't a ~ for me
fruitful avenue
this might be a ~ for further research
fruitful discourse
there hasn't been much ~ lately (politics)
fruitful place
this is a ~ to do business (a city)
fruitful relationship
they had a long and ~ (two companies)
artistically fruitful
there relationship was ~
less fruitful
subsequent efforts were ~
more fruitful
I think it would be ~ if we…
long, fruitful (m)
in the course of a ~ career, he… (a poet)
prove fruitful
negotiations could ~ if…

♦ The Smucker’s Company has a very cute full-page ad on the back of the January 21, 2019 Christian Science Monitor Weekly. It shows 12 bottles of their iconic jams and jellies in three rows with the dates of their introduction below them, and the title reads, “Fruitful Since 1897.” The pun incorporates the figurative and the literal. A classic and classy ad from a classic and classy company!

worth & lack of worth: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant

fruition (noun)
came to fruition
the plan never ~
growth & development: farming & agriculture / fruits & vegetables / plant

fry (small fry)
small fry
he is working his way up the food chain, starting with ~ (prosecutor)
importance & significance: animal / fish / size
power: animal / fish / size
strength & weakness: animal / fish / size
size: animal / fish

frying pan
jumps from the frying pan into the fire
like one who ~
fate, fortune & chance: cooking / fire

fuel (verb)

fuel (Internet) abuse
depression, obsessive-compulsive disorders can ~
fueled (much of the ) corruption
his bribes ~ in the state
fuel the (ongoing) debate
the results are likely to ~ over how… (cancer)
fueled the debate
those differences in point of view ~ (Confederate flag)
fuels the diaspora
poverty ~ of Malians
fuel the flames
don’t ~ (a controversy)
fueled (public) interest
journalism ~ (an Arctic rescue)
fueled a (growing) panic
Tuesday’s developments ~ in Japan (nuclear catastrophe)
fueling his (inner) rage
a cause that is ~ (environment)
fueled in him a sense of self-importance
the militia ~
increase & decrease: fire / verb
initiation: fire / verb
supplying: fire / verb

fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.)
adds (fresh) fuel to a (longstanding) controversy
his role in the new add ~
pour fuel on the fire
this will ~ of toxic political warfare
pour fuel on the flames
the documents are likely to ~ of a strained relationship
increase & decrease: fire / verb
fuel (noun)

any more fuel

she would not give the issue ~ (“no comment”)

initiation: fire
increase & decrease: fire

fueled

fueled by the Chinese

the jade boom has been ~ (Xinjiang)

fueled by a movie

the fury is ~ (anti-US protests by Muslims)

fueled by the occupation

anti-American sentiment ~ of Iraq

fueled by (Internet) pornography

soldiers who come home with sexual addictions ~

fueled the rumors

he has ~ by appointing… (rumors of war)

alcohol-fueled (m)

an epic, ~ party…

he died at an ~ party (fraternity)

rum-fueled (m)

the ~ party culminates Fat Tuesday (Trinidad)

whiskey-fueled (m)

a ~ high

ignited and fueled

opposition was ~ by the church (innovation)

increase & decrease: fire

full-court press

full-court press in Washington

there was a ~ (foreign lobbying campaign)

full-court press from our department

there is a ~ (search for missing child)

full-court press to capture him

there was a ~, once they knew his identity (a bomber)

full-court press (by the administration) to contain

it has been a ~ the company (tariff dispute with China)

difficulty, easiness & effort: basketball / sports & games
commitment & determination: basketball / sports & games

full-fledged (adjective)

full-fledged atrocity

a ~ would be difficult to ignore

full-fledged (academic) discipline

it is not yet a ~ with departments of its own (services science)

full-fledged explosion

the ~
funeral (one’s funeral)

funeral
go ahead and do it, it’s your ~
destruction: burial / death & life
fate, fortune & chance: burial / death & life
funnel (direct)
funnel (tax) dollars to the poor
he wants to ~ (a president)
funneled money to charities
he ~ with terrorist ties
directing: verb / water
funnel (shape)
funnel cloud
heavy rains, hail, reports of ~s
tornado funnel
~s in Oklahoma
shape: water
furnace (noun)
furnace of an atmosphere
who can survive in this ~ (important soccer game)
thrown into a furnace
I was ~
environment: fire / temperature
furnish (give)
furnished them with all the information
the report ~
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb
fury (creature)
keep his furies at bay
he works hard to ~ (troubled ex-boxer)
♦ The furies are part of Greek mythology.
affliction: allusion / creature / religion
fuse (noun)
short fuse
our society has a ~, just waiting for a spark (China)
that ~ got him in trouble (troubled Iraq veteran)
lit the fuse
that was the match that ~ (precipitating cause)
initiation: explosion / weapon
fusillade (noun)
fusillade against an “Obama judge”
Trump’s latest ~
accusation & criticism: military / weapon

speech: weapon

G

gadfly (person)
diplomatic gadfly
he is a kind of ~ (a Lebanese businessman and advisor)
hippie and gadfly
he was the resident ~
♦ Gadflies might be any one of several large flies, including horseflies.
affliction: animal / horse / insect / person
character & personality: animal / horse / insect / person
person: animal / insect

gag (noun)
gag order
the judge has issued a ~
constraint & lack of constraint: speech
gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
gaggle of protesters
a ~ have gathered outside the court (Vancouver)
did a gaggle
the president ~ from the North Lawn
♦ This refers to an impromptu press conference by the president or press secretary that is informal, unscripted and unfettered. An actual gaggle refers to a flock, especially of geese, and especially on the ground.
activity: animal / bird
behavior: animal / bird
resemblance / group, set & collection: animal / bird
Galapagos (epithet)
“Galapagos of the Indian Ocean”
its startling biodiversity has earned it the nickname ~ (Socotra)
Galapagos of the North
the Pribilofs are known as the ~
Galápagos of Russia
Unesco's citation refers to Lake Baikal as the “~”
American Galápagos
the ~ (Hawaiian Islands Marine National Park)
Canadian Galápagos
islands referred to as the “~” (Haida Gwaii)
biodiversity: epithet / place
galaxy (noun)
galaxy of actors
his films drew performances from a ~ (director)
galaxy of (Western) media figures
he introduced her to a ~ (Charlie Rose, etc.)
achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy

group, set & collection: astronomy

gall (verb)

galls his critics
what ~ is…
truly galls
what ~ them is…
♦ Both trees and humans can develop galls. A gall in a human is a raised boil.

affliction: health & medicine / sensation / verb

gallery (play to the gallery)

plays to the gallery
the representation of emotion ~ (humiliation, anguish, distress, etc.)

performance: theater

gallery (cheering gallery)

cheering gallery
Obama still has his ~

achievement, recognition & praise: theater

gallop (noun)

murmurs, rubs, and gallops
note the presence of ~ (lung sounds)

sound: animal / horse

galloping

galloping or surging (m)
so-called ~ glaciers can travel 250 feet per day

speed: animal / horse

galvanized (verb)
galvanized people to take up
the movies ~ the cause (wrongful convictions)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / verb
initiation: electricity / verb

gambit (noun)

unwise and diversionary gambit
this is an ~ (diplomatic move)

strategy: chess / sports & games

gamble (verb)
gambled everything on getting
he ~ his dictionary published

fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games
strategy: gambling / sports & games

gamble (noun)
gamble
we were in Tonga on a ~... (windsurfers)

gamble on agriculture
Saudi Arabia's ~ has sucked precious aquifers dry

Saudi Arabia's gamble
~ on agriculture has sucked precious aquifers dry

political gamble
he represents a ~ (choice of vice president)

daring gamble
he called the initiative "a ~" to make... (space flight)

technological gamble
the plan relies on four highly speculative ~ (restore Everglades)

gamble paid off
the ~
took the gamble
he ~ (migrant / Senegal to Canary Islands)

fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games
strategy: gambling / sports & games

game (game the system, etc.)

game the (asylum) process
they ~ (skip out on court dates)

gaming the system
parents are ~ to advantage their children (university admissions)

subterfuge: sports & games

strategy: gambling / sports & games

game (in / into the game)
in the game
we will continue to be ~ (US surveillance)

back in the game
we are ~

get (back) into the (dating) game
ways to ~ (self-help)

involvement: sports & games

strategy: gambling / sports & games

game (late in the game)
late in the game
it's pretty ~ to be…
its kind of ~ to be talking about this

timeliness & lack of timeliness: sports & games

strategy: gambling / sports & games

game (get one's head into the game)
get your head into the game
hey, ~... (coach to player)

get my head (back) into the game
he reminded me to ~ (Afghan combat)

consciousness & awareness: sports & games

strategy: gambling / sports & games

game (game-changer)

game-changer
a free Iraq is going to be a ~, an agent of change
game changer for our profession
this is a ~
geopolitical game-changer
nuclear weapons are a ~
importance & significance: sports & games
disruption: sports & games
development: sports & games
game (chess game)
chess game
it really is a ~ (trying to catch terrorist)
let’s look ahead, the way you have to in a ~ (Brexit negotiations)
it’s a ~, and we have to look several moves ahead (Brexit)
political chess game
the politicians play ~s (at expense of laborers)
they use human beings as pawns in a ~ (hostages)
psychological chess games
winning ~s (interrogations of terrorist suspects)
strategy: chess / sports & games
game (game of hide and seek, etc.)
game of hide-and-seek
a very serious ~ (Palestinian student-terrorist)
pursuit, capture & escape: sports & games
game (game of cat and mouse, etc.)
game of cat and mouse
colleges find themselves in a new ~ (cheating with technology)
cat-and-mouse game
the ~ with the virus writers
the ~ Iraq played with U.N. inspectors
it’s a ~ (campaigning for an election)
pursuit, capture & escape: animal / cat / hunting / sports & games
competition: animal / cat / hunting / sports & games
game (guessing game)
guessing game
how the weather will affect operations comes down to a ~
comes down to a guessing game
how the weather will affect operations ~
certainty & uncertainty: sports & games
fate, fortune & chance: sports & games
game (game face)
game face
she had on her ~ (a law-enforcement officer)
appearance: face / sports & games
commitment & determination: face / sports & games
game (numbers game)
numbers game
CIA case officers admit to a ~
dating is entirely a ~
the business plan was just a ~
job hunting is a ~ (developing contacts, etc.)
the ~ continued (changing numbers, recalculating)
play the numbers game
smugglers ~, the law of averages
strategy: number / sports & games
game (blame game, etc.)
blame game
what he did is what matters, not the ~ (trial)
accusation & criticism: sports & games
game (project, scheme, plan)
game of ‘gotcha’
they were playing a ~ rather than trying to help
games of dominance and submission
~ (relationships)
game of wink and nod
he is playing a risky ~
childish game
he was playing a ~
head games
victimized by others’ or your own ~
cutthroat game
he wasn’t there to play the ~ (Survivor)
dangerous game
speaking truth to power is a ~
silly game
stop playing your ~s
just a game
they know I won’t shoot them, now it’s ~ (Israeli sniper)
playing a game
she’s ~ that could blow up in her face
play games
we don’t ~, we don’t bullshit (windsurfer Poles)
subterfuge: sports & games
performance: sports & games
game (game of life, etc.)
game
I had no clue what the rules were, what the ~ even was
game of life
the ~

♦ “I had no clue what the rules were, what the game even was—or that there was even a game.” (The computer scientist Richard Wallace, who suffers from bipolar disease.)
"They were dealt some cards they can't play to this day. Fortunately, I was dealt cards and somehow managed to play the right hand." (Olympic champion speaking of his heroin-addict mother and step-father.)

"It's not the cards you're dealt, it's how you play your hand."

**survival, persistence & endurance: sports & games**

**game (stock market game, etc.)**

- Great Game
  - Azerbaijan was a pawn in the ~ for territory and power
- lethal game
  - EFPs are the latest twist in a ~ of measure, countermeasure
- rules in this game
  - there are no set ~ (starting an Internet business)
- rules of the game
  - our understanding of the ~ (diplomacy)
  - this time we will change the ~ (Israel bombs Hezbollah)
- play the game
  - mistakes are the price you pay to ~ (NYC publishing)
- stay on top of my game
  - I have to ~…
- keep the game interesting
  - to ~, the plays will be performed in repertory

- "Craig Kelly was a hero to all of us, but his death seems to be just a part of the game." (Reaction of a snowboarder to Craig Kelly's death in an avalanche.)

**work & duty: sports & games**

**game (social interaction)**

- game of wink and nod
  - he is playing a risky ~
- dating game
  - the ~ isn't as fun as it used to be (famous actor)
- mating games
  - social skills that underlie more serious ~ in years to come
- competitive game
  - for young women in Beirut, dressing fashionably is a ~
  - it's all just ~ (job interviewing)
- stages of the (dating) game
  - in the early ~
- rules of the (dating) game
  - trying to figure out the ~

**social interaction: sports & games**

**game (situation)**

- game changed
  - then, suddenly, the whole ~ (riot that turns deadly)

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

**garbage (data)**

- garbage in, garbage out ~ (GiGO)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: waste**

**garbage (waste)**

- garbage compromise
  - this is a ~ (politics)
- anti-Semitic garbage
  - they need to get the ~ out of their textbooks
- bunch of garbage
  - everybody thinks we're enemies, that's a ~

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

**garden (resemblance)**

- coral garden
  - fragile ~s were discovered at depths of about 1,000 feet
- rock garden
  - technical paddling through ~s (kayaking)

**resemblance: plant**

**garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)**

- Cactus Garden
cavers called the new find the ~ (stalagmites)

**Gandhi**

- Gandhi of the Balkans
  - he was known as the ~ (Ibrahim Rugova)

**conflict: allusion / epithet**

**Gandhian**

- Gandhian engineering
  - India is promoting ~ (low cost)
  - ~ challenges convention (cars)
- Gandhian tactics
  - he advocates the use of ~ against Israel

**conflict: allusion**

**gap (noun)**

- budget gap
  - we need to close the ~
- falls into a gap
  - he ~ between disciplines

**division & connection: ground, terrain & land**

**garbage (data)**

- garbage in, garbage out ~ (GiGO)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: waste**

**garbage (waste)**

- garbage compromise
  - this is a ~ (politics)
- anti-Semitic garbage
  - they need to get the ~ out of their textbooks
- bunch of garbage
  - everybody thinks we're enemies, that's a ~

**worth & lack of worth: waste**

**garden (resemblance)**

- coral garden
  - fragile ~s were discovered at depths of about 1,000 feet
- rock garden
  - technical paddling through ~s (kayaking)

**resemblance: plant**

**garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)**

- Cactus Garden
cavers called the new find the ~ (stalagmites)
Garden of Eden

Garden of Eden
when I first visited Borneo in the 60s, it was a ~
♦ The Mormon Bible locates the Garden of Eden near Independence, Missouri.

environment: Bible / religion
flaws & lack of flaws: Bible / religion
superlative: Bible / religion

gargantuan (size)
gargantuan characters
they were both ~ (in the Scottish climbing community)
♦ Gargantua, a kindly giant in French folklore, was the giant prince with a huge appetite and loud voice in Rabelais’s 16-century satiric novel. I have not read it, but a description of it makes me think of Paul Bunyan, particularly the appetite part.

size: allusion
gas (run out of gas)
ran out of gas
he ~ (a losing boxer)

starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / verb
failure, accident & impairment: engine / verb
gas (take one’s foot off the gas)
took his foot off the gas
today he ~ (president decides to delay plan)
took its foot off the gas
with a 30-point lead, the team ~
haste / speed: engine
gas (substance)
gas machine
he’s known as a ~ (a politician)

substance & lack of substance: atmosphere
gaslight (verb)
gaslighted
her husband ~ her for years
♦ Gas Light was a 1938 English play by Patrick Hamilton. It is about an abusive and criminal husband who tries to convince his wife that she is crazy. The word has come to mean a certain sort of psychological manipulation. It can appear in a series like, “gaslighting, lying, and manipulation.”
speech: allusion / film / verb
subterfuge: allusion / film / verb
gaslighting (noun)
gaslighting, lying, and manipulation
she described his ~ in the workplace as cruel
speech: allusion / film
subterfuge: allusion / film
gasp (very “gasp,” etc.)
very ‘Gasp! the coverage has been very ~ Censorship’

feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / breathing
gasp (last gasp)
last gasp
that fuss he made at the Capitol was a ~ resistance, opposition & defeat: bodily process / breathing
gate (society)
outside the gates
Turkey is still ~ (admittance to European Union)
society: gate
access & lack of access: gate
obstacles & impedance: gate
division & connection: gate
gate (portal)
gates of death
the ~ are without number (versus birth)
portal: gate
gate (Iron Gate, etc.)
Gates of Samburu
the ~ is a pass in the Rift Valley of Kenya
Hell’s Gate
~ the second big rapid (Lower Meadow River)
the Nahanni bends through a constriction called the ~
Dzungarian Gate
the ~ is a pass between Xinjiang and Kazakhstan
Moravian Gate
the ~ linked southern Europe and the Baltic Sea (a pass)
Golden Gate (m)
the ~ Bridge crosses the harbor
Iron Gate
the ~is a gorge on the Danube River

proper name: gate
gatecrasher
gatecrasher
the ~ was arrested (party)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gate
gatekeeper
gatekeeper
editors say they are ~s, not detectives (fraudulent studies)
gatekeepers of the Tony Awards
just 30 theater professionals are the ~ (nominators)
gatekeepers of (TV) comedy
The make up a small clique (bookers like Eddie Brill)
gatekeepers of (literary) culture
book publishers have long seen themselves as the ~
gatekeepers of the (global) Internet
the ~ should treat all users equally (congestion)
gatekeeper to (the nation’s) colleges
the SAT as a major ~ and universities... (scoring errors)
gatekeeper for information
we do not want to act as a ~ (Swisscom official / congestion)
gatekeeper role
they can play a ~ (building landlords vs. cable providers)
objective gatekeeper
clinical researchers should function as ~s, but... (conflicts of interest)
cultural and political gatekeepers
the digerati effort to dethrone ~ (Web)
monopoly gatekeeper
Google is the ~ to the Internet
assistant and gatekeeper
she serves as his ~ (his wife)
hit makers, gatekeepers and fact checkers
career prospects for ~ may be in doubt (Internet)
dethrone (cultural) gatekeepers
the digerati effort to ~ (Web)
dethrone (political) gatekeepers
the digerati effort to ~ (Web)
challenges gatekeepers
anything that ~ is a good thing (e-publishing)
seen themselves as the gatekeepers
book publishers have long ~ of literary culture
serves as a gatekeeper
he ~ for those how want to meet her (a diplomat)
control & lack of control: gate / society
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gate
gateway
gateway to the East
the ~
gateway to Europe
the Iberian Peninsula was an ideal ~ (drugs / Portugal)
gateway to the Sahara
in Tamanrasset, ~ (Algeria / Tuaregs)
gateway into dream life
a direct ~
gateway between Pakistan and Afghanistan
the Khyber Pass, the ancient ~
gateway for drugs

In 1977, Florida was the ~ into the United States
gateway for drug smugglers
Baluchistan has been a major ~ from...
gateway for drug traffickers
southeastern Iran is a major ~ from...
gateway drug
some believe marijuana is a ~
"gateway theory"
the ~ that pot can lead to harder drugs
ancient gateway
the Khyber Pass, the ~
major gateway
SE Iran is a ~ for drug traffickers from...
portal: gate
gauge
gauge of malnutrition
the percent of kids under 5 who are underweight is a ~
critical gauge
it is a ~ of malnutrition (underweight kids under 5)
measurement: tools & technology
gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet)
laid down the gauntlet to Republicans
Obama has ~ by asking Congress to…
♦ A gauntlet was a glove worn with Medieval armor to protect the hand. In its figurative meaning, it means to issue a challenge.

conflict: Middle Ages / verb
gear (in full gear)
in full gear
the community will move to get the relief effort ~
get the (relief) effort in full gear
the community will move to ~
activity: mechanism
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism
gear (kick into gear, etc.)
kick into gear
that’s when you see him ~ (boxer gets ready for bout)
kicked into gear
the worm only ~ when... (cyberwarfare)
moved into (high) gear
American-led efforts to save the talks ~ (Mideast)
shifted into high gear
conservative talk-show hosts ~
activity: mechanism
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism
gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.)

wrench in the gears
antiviral drugs are a ~ of the genetic machinery
throw sand in the gears
this bill will ~ of commerce
they can ~ (Iraqi spies)

failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism

gear (switch gears)

switch gears
how hard it is to ~ for many adjuncts
I'm going to ~ here… (change the subject)

reversal: mechanism / verb

gear up (verb)

gears up for 2012
as the White House ~ (election)
gearing up for a battle
Republicans are ~ (politics)
gearing up for the future
we're ~ (companies exploiting the Arctic)

increase & decrease: mechanism / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism / verb

gem (noun)

gem
Oman is a ~ in the Middle East
gem of a book
he has written a ~
whitewater gem
this spectacular ~ (Tallulah Gorge / kayaking)
hidden gem
the road reveals many ~s (N7 in France)

superlative: mining

gene (in one's genes)

in his genes
laziness is not ~

identity & nature: biology

generation (products, etc.)

fourth generation
the Max was to be the of the 737 family (Boeing)
taxonomy & classification: family

Geneva Convention

digital Geneva Convention
some are calling for a ~ (cyberwarfare)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime / history / justice

genie (initiation)

genie
the ~ is out of the bottle (cloning)

once that ~ is out of the bottle, it gets very hard to put it back (opioids)
genie (of racial hatred) has been unleashed
the ~ (Ivory Coast)

stuff the genie back into the bottle
it's too late to ~

put the genie back in the bottle
you can't ~

initiation: creature

affliction: creature

genie (knowledge)

lighting-design genie
again he has shown himself to be a ~

knowledge & intelligence: creature

germinate (verb)

gestated and (finally) germinated
it was something that ~ into this thread I explored in my novel

creation & transformation: birth / plant / verb
growth & development: birth / plant / verb

Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.)

Gestapo of Patterson
the police were the ~ (BBC’s The Hurricane Tapes)

oppression: allusion / epithet / history / violence

gerstate (verb)

gestated and (finally) germinated
it was something that ~ into this thread I explored in my novel

creation & transformation: birth / verb
timeliness & lack of timeliness: birth / verb
growth & development: birth / verb

gestation (film, etc.)

seven-year gestation
the film had a ~

creation & transformation: birth
timeliness & lack of timeliness: birth
growth & development: birth

get (get through something)

get through (almost) anything
with the right outlook, you can ~ (life)

get through the episode
I somehow managed to ~
got through the interview
   I somehow ~ (for a job)

got through it
   I think she’ll ~, she’s a very strong personality (athlete)

got through that (transition) period
   help the economy ~ (Russia)

got through the (degree) program
   working while they try to ~

got through this
   the Lord will give us the strength to ~

got through this somehow
   we’ll ~

got you through rough times
   develop better coping skills to ~
time to get through (all) this
   it takes ~, just be patient…

strength to get through this
   the Lord will give us the ~

way to get through it
   if you want to find a ~ all, maybe…

survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / verb
resiliency: journeys & trips / verb
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: journeys & trips / verb

get (get over something)

get over the sense of failure
   I know I will ~
survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / verb
resiliency: journeys & trips / verb
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: journeys & trips / verb

get (get into something)

got into movies
   little by little, I ~ (an actor)

got into the specifics
   I’m not going to ~ on the investigation

involvement: container / direction / verb

get (get somewhere)

get there
   how did Apple ~ (a trillion dollars)

get here
   how did we ~ (explain how we arrived at such a situation)

attainment: journeys & trips / verb
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: journeys & trips / verb
analysis, interpretation & explanation: journeys & trips / verb

get (understand)

get it
   I ~
   I don’t ~
   I didn’t ~

gets it
   this guy ~ (understands)
   here’s a guy who ~ (cleric who fights sex abuse)

get the skepticism
   I totally ~

comprehension & incomprehension: giving, receiving, bringing & returning / verb

getaway

weekend getaway
   dream vacations and ~s
a romantic ~ as a Valentine's Day present

romantic getaway
   last summer, for a ~, we…;

romantic (weekend) getaway
   a ~ as a Valentine's Day present

vacation getaway
   this ~ won’t cost you an arm and leg

pursuit, capture & escape: place

get out (escape)

get out
   I wanted to ~ but I didn’t know how (gang)

situation: container

get out (get out from under)

get out from under her (crushing debt) burden
   she couldn’t ~

get out from under the cloud
   he couldn’t ~ of suspicion

get out from under (US) sanctions
   Iran wants to ~

oppression: burden / verb / weight
amelioration & renewal: burden / verb / weight

ghost (verb)

ghosting you
   he’s ~ (her boyfriend disappears without contact)

ghosts boyfriends
   she ~ because she doesn’t want to offend

ghosted me
   she ~ and I was left in the dark (as to why)

ghosted him
   American had ~ (victim of #MeToo movement)
In terms of dating, this refers to a boyfriend or girlfriend cutting off a relationship with no explanation, not face to face or even on social media. Further contact might only be related to "orbiting" on social media.

appearance & disappearance: creature / verb

ghost (memory)

ghost
the ~s were brought to life (bones of slave laborers)
they want to keep his ~ alive (Osama bin Laden)

"ghosts" of Ms Clinton’s campaign
the article questioned whether the ~ would haunt Ms Warren

ghosts of Vietnam
an attempt to bury the ~ (embedded reporters / Iraq)

ghosts of history
a debate about how to confront the ~ (Germany / 70s)

confront the ghosts
a debate about how to ~ of history (Germany, 70s)

exorcised that ghost
European leaders thought they had ~ (Berlusconi)

affliction: creature

ghost (bury the ghost)

bury the ghosts
an attempt to ~ of Vietnam

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: burial / creature / verb

ghost (ghost children, etc.)

ghost children
North Korean ~ in China can't go to school (illegal)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: creature

ghost (ghost ship, etc.)

ghost face
the child noticed a ~ on the floor (Bélmez Faces)

"ghost" ship
~s have been previously hijacked (piracy)
~s are a real threat to the security (world's waterways)
the two pirate vessels returned to a large ~ (Somalia)

appearance & disappearance: creature

ghost (ghost signs, etc.)

"ghost signs"
the city does not preserve ~ (on old brick walls)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: creature

ghost (fantasy and delusion)

ghost airplanes
stray missiles, ~ (Egyptian scenarios for Flight 990)

fantasy & reality: creature

ghost town

ghost town
two years later, the city is a ~ (after earthquake)
one year on, L'Aquila is still a ~ (after earthquake)

turn into ghost towns
communities will ~

activity: creature

presence & absence: creature

ghostwriter (noun)

ghostwriter
he has worked as an unofficial ~

concealment & lack of concealment: creature

subterfuge: creature

giant (Giants Causeway, etc.)

Giants Causeway
the ~ is a cape in Northern Ireland

Giants of Asia
these two ~ (China and India)

giant in the field
the late Amos Tversky, a ~ of coincidence theory

beverage giant
the Atlanta-based ~ (Coca-Cola)

game giant
the established ~s Sony and Nintendo

Wall Street giant
~ Lehman Brothers

telecom giant
the ~ WorldCom

comic-book giant
a ~ (character from a comic)

San Francisco Giants
the ~ beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-2 (MLB)

Duiwelskloof Giant
the ~ has a pub inside it (a South African baobab tree)

Sagole giant

♦ Be careful about sharing intimate gossip in a party situation—you may find it comes back to haunt you…
the ~ sprawls over a half-an-acre (South African baobab)

fast-food giant
aggressive trademark protection by the ~ (McDonald’s)

long-distance giant
~ AT&T

mobile-phone giant
~ Vodafone

natural gas giant
Gazprom, the ~ (Russia)

software giant
the ~ Microsoft

online auction giant
the ~ eBay

sleeping giant
this is a ~ (projected water shortage in US)
they have awakened a ~ (sports team)

banking giant
the ~ Wachovia

retailing giant
such ~s as Old Navy, Staples, Barnes & Noble

complacent giant
aggressive upstarts catch ~ unawares (Japan)

4 giants
~ fell in the first round (World Cup soccer)

20,000-foot giant
Pumori and McKinley, among other ~s

catch (complacent) giant unawares
aggressive upstarts ~ (Japan vs. Detroit)

grow into a giant
a hailstone can ~ (size of a grapefruit)

size: creature

giant (sleeping giant)
sleeping giant
the Latino vote has always been seen as a ~ (politics)

consciousness & awareness: creature / size
power: creature / size


giant (achievement)
giant of his field
he was considered the ~ (literary critic)

giant of foreign policy
he was a true ~

giant figure
he was a ~ in American theater (August Wilson)

romantic giants
in an age of ~ he was certainly a titan (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)

shoulder of giants
I've always felt I'm standing on the ~ here (windsurfer)

achievement, recognition & praise: creature / size
importance & significance: creature / size
gift (gift for languages, etc.)

gift
they either have that ~ or they don't (acting)

gift for knowing
he has a ~ what people want (games developer)

gift for friendship
Wharton had a great ~

gift for languages
having an unusual ~ (explorer Sven Hedin)

gift for metaphor
a poet's ~

gift for theater
his ~ and his populist policies (a politician)

poet's gift
a ~ for metaphor

athletic gifts
the ~, but behind them was an angry teenage

ability & lack of ability: gift
gift (benefit)

gift
thank you GOD for blessing us with this ~ (John Singleton)

gift to the (Iraqi) people
the suicide bombing was a ~

Gift of Life
the ~ brings children to the US for surgery

gift of life
organ donors make the ~ possible

gift of literacy
give the ~ and change a life forever (literacy)

gift of science
we embrace the ~, which is a gift from God (Jews)

gift from God
she is a ~ (woman who helps the poor)
the gift of science, which is a ~ (Jews / reproduction)

gift from the 20th century to the 21st
a ~ (eradication of polio)

gift and a curse
having a good platoon, it's both a ~ (combat medic)

God's gift
camels, known by some as Ata Allah, or ~

Australia's gift
~ to the world (fresh, fun and enthusiastic girls)
precious gift
   she was a ~ (mother talking about murdered daughter)
accept our lot as a gift
   but should we ~ (vs. genetic and self-engineering)
cost & benefit: gift
worth & lack of worth: gift
gift (verb)
gifted Cameroon a goal
   her sloppy pass back almost ~ (World Cup soccer)
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: gift / verb
gifted
gifted children
   the parents of ~
   a program that serves ~
gifted (young) violinist
   a ~
gifted, high-functioning (m)
   ~ individuals
most gifted (m)
   only the ~ math wizards understand it (Poincare)
naturally gifted (m)
   naturally gifted athletes
technically gifted (m)
   he is a ~ boxer
ability & lack of ability: gift
gilded (Gilded Age)
   Gilded Age of rock journalism
   the sixties were the ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history
growth & development / money: history
give-and-take
give and take
   such ~ is uncommon
   there has been a lot of ~ (coach / player)
give and take of ideas
   the ~ in class discussion (vs. Internet)
give-and-take relationship
   our ~s
marital give-and-take
   in this parable of ~, the last word is hers to give
position, policy & negotiation: direction
social interaction: giving, receiving, talking, bringing & returning
give in (verb)
give in
   I will never ~
gloom (noun)
tension and gloom
people resumed their lives in an atmosphere of ~
feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark
oppression: light & dark
gloomy (adjective)
gloomy assessment
in this ~ of American nursing… (a book)
gloomy picture
he presented quite a ~ of the region
gloomy crossroads
he’d reached a ~ in his life
feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark
oppression: light & dark
glove (the gloves are off)
gloves (the gloves are off)
the ~ (jungle justice / no Nigerian election meddling)
gloves are (well and truly) off
the ~ (tough G-20 negotiations)
the gloves are (coming) off
~ and the new US policy...
restraint & lack of restraint: boxing
conflict / violence: boxing
glowing (adjective)
glowing recommendation
he earned an internship because of a ~
superlative: light & dark
glue (noun)
glue
she is the ~ binding the family together (daughter)
their affection is the ~ that holds them together
he is the ~ that holds the company together (an executive)
oil could be the ~ that keeps the two sides civil (Sudan)
fear is the ~ that holds together their regime (repression)
almond butter is the ~ that holds the ingredients together
he is the ~ that holds it together (a soccer player)
glue of civilization
queues are the ~ (society, egalitarianism, fairness, etc.)
glue of politics
fear was now the ~ (repressive regimes)
binding glue
nationalism was the ~ that replaced religion and dynasty
ideological glue
the Brotherhood has a common ~ other parties lack
social glue
her coach called her the ~ that held the players together
religion provides ~ to bond groups

attachment: materials & substances

glued
glue to their screens
young people are ~ all day (computers)
glued to his ear
he had a cellphone ~ (art-auction bidder)
glued to their radios
soap operas keep millions of Ethiopians ~
glued to the television
during the World Cup she was ~
glued to the TV
on Sundays, my husband is ~ (sports)
glued to the road
all-wheel drive keeps you ~ (cars)
glued to the floor
she sat silently, her eyes ~

attachment: materials & substances

glut (noun)
supply glut
a ~ of lobsters
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink
glutton (person)
glutton for punishment
I should have quit my job years ago, but I guess I'm a ~
glutton for food, sex and praise
he is a ~
video glutton
I am a ~ (stop me before I rent again)
consumption: food & drink / person
enthusiasm: food & drink / person
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink / person
person: food & drink
gnaw (verb)
gnawed at him
it ~ (what to do about a problem)
a secret worry ~ (a researcher and his results)
the letter ~ (a journalist gets a tip)
sensation: animal / teeth / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: animal / teeth / verb
gnawing
gnawing hunger
they had a ~ for a better life (Ellis Island immigrants)
gnawing fear and uncertainty
a ~ (living in era of terrorism)
sensation: animal / teeth
feeling, emotion & effect: animal / teeth
go (go after somebody / attack)
go after the senator
the President is ~ with references to Native Americans
goes after his critics
he ~ (Turkish President)
accusation & criticism: verb / weapon
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb
go (go along)
go along
to get along, you’ve got to ~
go along with Israel
he will probably ~ (foreign policy)
unanimity & consensus: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
social interaction: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb
go (go along)

failure, accident & impairment: movement
go (go through something)
go through
separation is a developmental stage that nearly all kids ~
goes through a (tough) breakup
he ~ with his girlfriend

going through a divorce
she was ~

went through much (diplomatic) haggling
the resolution ~ (U.N.)
gotten through a rocky season
UConn has ~ for them (women’s basketball)

going through some trials
please keep praying for me, as I am ~
go through this whole thing
you ~ called life (a person feeling his mortality)
go through this again
I'm sorry you have to ~

survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / movement / verb
experience: journeys & trips / movement / verb
go (go big)
go big
keep the case local, or ~ (murder of child)
they decided to ~ (police / murder of child)

extent & scope: size / verb
commitment & determination: size / verb
go (go for something)
go for broke
expect the athletes to ~ (Olympics)
go-for-broke (m)
doing ~ art
a skier with a ~ style
a ~ cancer treatment
go for it
let's ~ (win versus tie / sports)
go-for-it (m)
you need a ~ attitude (ski competition)
he had a ~ mentality (skateboarder)
go for the victory
he decided to ~ (versus tie / coach)

“He had a go-for-it mentality—‘Make it, or take me to the hospital.’” (A skateboarder.)
“I just did it, and just kind of went as big as I could, and threw it all at the wall knowing the only mistake we could make was not going far enough. And so we both just went for it... I had turned it up to eleven and then realized I had to go even higher...” (Elisabeth Moss on performing in Her Smell.)

attempt: direction / movement
commitment & determination: direction / movement / verb
go (a road can go, etc.)
goes from Canada to Mexico
the mountain range ~
route: movement / walking, running & jumping

fictive motion: verb / walking, running & jumping
go (have a go at something)
had a go at it
practically everyone ~ (writing mystery novels)

attempt: direction / verb
go (a distance to go, etc.)
further to go
we have come a long way, but we have much ~
a little way to go
we still have a ~ (restoring electricity after hurricane)
a long way to go
we’ve got ~, but we've had some success

progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips

progress

go far
together we will ~
gone (quite) a distance
we have ~ in creating a better Afghanistan
going nowhere
the project is ~ (a pipeline)

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**condition & status: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**go (let something go)**

let it go
he rolled his eyes and told me to ~ (book idea)

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

**reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: direction / verb**

**go (behavior)**

going berserk
this crowd is ~ (an exciting boxing match)

went too far
she ~ (bad behavior gets her in trouble)

went overboard
she ~ (bad behavior gets her in trouble)

go over the line
anything goes as long as you don't ~ (Las Vegas)

went off the deep end
she ~

anything goes
~ as long as you don't go over the line (Las Vegas)

willing to go
how far are you ~ to get these people (cops)

**behavior: direction / movement / verb**

**go (development)**

going badly
the project is ~

**going great**
things are ~ (a relationship)

gone smoothly
but the hangings have not always ~... (Iraq)

went smoothly
elections ~ and without violence (Ghana)

going well
when things are ~ at home

went wrong
what ~

went (so) wrong
a routine call that ~ so quickly (two cops murdered)

go a little better
things began to ~ after that

gone from bad to worse
things have ~ (surprising news)

dev**

**development: direction / movement / verb**

**go (direction)**

go
Obama is taking this country where it should never ~
goes to a difficult issue
your question ~

go from here
where do we ~ (troubled relationship)
where does the program ~ (sports)

**going forward**
turning back was not an option, ~ was a minefield

went round and round
we ~ (in an argument)

**gone either way**
it could have ~ (the decision in a close boxing match)

**go this route**
I'm surprised more people don't ~ (reject fame)

**direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb**

**go (where are we going, etc.)**

where are we going
what's next for the Brexit process, ~

**future: journeys & trips / movement**

**go (not go there)**

go there
let's not ~ (topic of conversation)
I just can't ~ (think about it)

**eagerness & reluctance: journeys & trips / movement**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: journeys & trips / movement**

**go (time)**

time has gone
we worry about where the ~, how much of it we have left

come and gone
2001 has ~

**time: direction / movement / verb**

**past & present: direction / movement / verb**

**go (come and go)**

come and go
trendy eateries ~
fashion trends ~ (normcore)

been and gone
irrelevant club whose time has ~ (Manchester United)

come and gone
technological fads have ~ in schools

came and went
other American intelligence warnings ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / movement / verb
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction / movement / verb
go-ahead
go-ahead to the groups
give the ~ waiting to descend
go-ahead from Turkey
uncertainty over a ~ (military operation)
go-ahead for the flight
the ~ came through
go-ahead basket
the ~ on a driving layup (basketball)
uncertainty over a go-ahead
~ from Turkey (military operation)
go ahead (for the flight) came through
the ~
give the go-ahead
~ to the groups waiting to descend
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: direction
goad (verb)
goad him into launching
Trump appeared to ~ a presidential bid (liberal independent)
coercion & motivation: animal / speech / verb / violence
directing: animal / speech / verb / violence
oppression: animal / speech / verb / violence
goal (own goal)
embarrassing own goal
this is an ~ for the president’s allies
failure, accident & impairment: sports & games
goal line (across the goal line)
get this across the goal line
she needs her party’s support to ~ (Brexit)
success & failure: football / sports & games
goalpost (target)
goalpost
that ~ seemed to fade out of sight (a deadline)
moved the goalposts
every time Obama met their demands, they ~ (Republicans)
♦ (A) “Did I do that right?” (B) “Correct. Yes.” (C) “Yes.” (A) “All right. Through the uprights. Thank you very much. Okay, so then the question is why...” (A radio science show with three people.)
success & failure: football / sports & games / target
target: football / sports & games
go around (verb)
go around congress
the president will try to ~ to get what he wants
avoidance & separation: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
obstacles & impediments: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
strategy: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
subterfuge: direction / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
gobble up (verb)
gobbled up land
developers ~ (housing and golf courses)
gobbled up the market
rivals have ~
consumption: food & drink / verb
god (play god, etc.)
god game
a ~ called Black and White (computers);
~s, like the SimCity series and Dungeon Keeper
god-game (m)
he invented the ~ genre in 1987 with Populous
God gamers
~ escape the real world (computer games)
play god
she tried to ~, and now she is in trouble
control & lack of control: religion
god (mountain gods, etc.)
football gods
the ~ weren’t going to let Auburn lose last night
mountain gods
sometimes the ~ say, ”Not today” (climbing)
Concordia is the throne room of the ~ (Pakistan / Rowell)
poker gods
he felt cursed by the ~
river gods
the ~ are hungry (a rafter)
sea gods
and since the ~ had ordained he should become my shipmate (Moby-Dick)
soccer gods
the ~ at times are fair (two judging errors cancel out)
cursed by the (poker) gods
he felt ~
fate, fortune & chance: religion
**goddess**

- she is a ~
- superlative: religion

**godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.)**

- Godfather of Soul
  - the governor proclaimed him the ~ (James Brown)
- godfather of global warming
  - he is sometimes called "~" (James Hansen of NASA)
- godfather of kayak surfing
  - Randy Phillips, the ~
- Godfather of Freeskiing
  - the ~, Mike Douglas (New Canadian Air Force)

**godforsaken**

- godforsaken battlefields
  - months or even years on ~ (Korea)
- godforsaken hellhole
  - a ~
  - feeling, emotion & effect: religion

**gold (black gold, etc.)**

- white gold
  - ~, they sometimes called it (guano in the 19th century)
- black gold
  - ~ (oil)
- blue gold
  - bulk water shipments could be ~ (to arid countries)
- gray gold
  - lead was called ~ (1820s / northwestern Illinois)

**gold (worth)**

- worth its weight in gold
  - it's ~
  - worth & lack of worth: mining

**gold (strike gold)**

- struck gold
  - he finally ~ (won an award)
- struck (comic) gold
  - they knew they had ~ (idea for film)

**god digger**

- a ~ is someone who marries for money, not for love
  - she was a small-town girl, a Playboy pinup, and ~

**golden (golden girl, boy)**

- golden boy
  - he was a ~ from the get-go (Justice John Roberts)
- golden girl of Silicon Valley
  - she was the ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)
- golden boy quarterback
  - ~ faces uncertain future (in NFL draft)
- liberal golden boy
  - he became a ~ during his Senate bid (Beto O’Rourke)
- brings down (Rhode Island) ‘golden boy’
  - college cheating scandal ~ (tennis coach took bribes)

**gold-digging**

- gold-digging (m)
  - prenuptial agreements protect wealthy from ~ spouses
  - behavior: mining

**golden age / era**

- "golden age" of peace
  - they look on his reign as a ~ (Afghanistan)
- golden age of quiz shows
  - the ~ of the 1950s
- golden age of the detective story
  - the period has been called the ~ (between world wars)
- golden era
  - the ~ of whaling, from about 1820 to 1860
  - sport’s Golden Era
    - the 1970s, the ~ (US boxing)
golden rule

the ~ in meatpacking plants is "the line never stops"

message: religion

golden hour

golden hour
a clock starts ticking on what is called the ~
the ~, when life can hang in the balance

"Golden Hour" of injury
if treatment is available within the first ~

timeliness & lack of timeliness: hour

gold mine

gold mine of data
a ~ about enemy plans

gold mine of (genealogical) data
a ~ for family researchers (census)

gold mine of documentation
the prison is a possible ~ (Iraq / US POW)

gold mine of information
he is a ~
the Web is a ~

gold mine of research
it was a ~ (Lyme disease hotspot)

go mine of data for researchers
the census is a ~ (genealogy)

goldmine for (Chinese wood) traders
the vast forests of Eastern Siberia are a ~

fossil goldmine
the limestone caves contain a "~" of species

potential gold mine
college graduates are ~s for retailers

source: mining
worth & lack of worth: mining

gold rush
dot-com gold rush
Wall Street's ~

Internet gold rush
start-ups and the ~
natural-gas gold rush
the country is at the heart of Colorado's ~
latter-day gold rush
a ~ is on (Arctic oil and gas)

new gold rush
we are experiencing a ~ (renewable energy / California)

gold rush has attracted

the ~ a cartoonish array (cryptocurrencies)

cost & benefit: mining / money
amount & effect: mining / money
worth & lack of worth: mining / money
activity: mining / money

Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.)

Goldilocks economy
we are in the middle of a ~ (just right)

Goldilocks place
trying to find the sweet spot, the ~ is important (medicine)

Goldilocks principle
finding the middle way forward is called the “~”

Goldilocks zone
planets in the “~” (not too hot or cold for liquid water on surface, like Earth)

* In the fairy tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears", Goldilocks was a willful naughty little girl who could not control herself, and the bears were Mama, Papa, and Baby Bear. Goldilocks breaks into the bears’ house. She eats the porridge that is just right, sits on the chair that is just right, and sleeps on the bed that is just right. When the bears return, she flees.

flaws & lack of flaws: allusion

Goliath (Bible)
a billion-dollar goliath
he has conquered ~ (the tech industry)

David-and-Goliath
waging a ~ battle against Time Warner

strength & weakness: allusion / Bible / religion
size: allusion / Bible / religion

gone (those days are gone, etc.)
gone
those days are ~
the Ceausescus and Idi Amins and Saddams are ~

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
past & present: direction

good-hearted
good-hearted
a nice kid, polite and ~

character & personality: heart

go off (verb)
go off
when the president ~ on one of these tweet storms

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb
Initiation: explosion / verb

go on (explain)
going on with Boeing
what’s ~ (explain situation / news radio)
go on (verb)

go on
when you feel you can’t ~, I’ll come and hold you
goes on
and so it’s over, and yet it ~ (congressional hearing)
heart does go on
near, far, wherever you are, I believe that the ~ (Titanic)
life goes on
Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da, ~ (the Beatles)
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips / movement / verb
resiliency: journeys & trips / movement / verb

goosebumps
gives you goosebumps
it’s the kind of video that ~ (housefire)

feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process

Gordian knot

Gordian knot of international affairs
trying to unravel that ~
diplomacy’s Gordian knot
how to untie ~ (Israeli-Palestinian issue)
untie this Gordian knot
let the British people choose how to ~ in a referendum (Brexit)

♦ An oracle prophesized that whoever untied the intricate knot on the chariot of King Gordius would rule Asia. Alexander the Great simply slashed it apart with his sword. Cutting the Gordian knot means settling a complex problem with bold, decisive action.

complexity: allusion / rope
action, inaction & delay: allusion / rope

gorge (gorge on)
gorge themselves on the tabloids
the British ~ (scandals, etc.)

consumption: food & drink / verb

gorilla

800-pound gorilla
China is the ~ yet it is not in the negotiations
race has always been the ~ in this case

♦ In the New Yorker Magazine of 2 / 14, 2011, there is a cartoon by Mick Stevens. It shows the back of an 800-pound gorilla, who is being interviewed by a petite human personnel officer. She is saying to him, “We already have an eight-hundred-pound gorilla.”

substance & lack of substance: animal

grace (grace period)
grace period
they were given a ~ to… (new ordinance)
elimination of the grace period
the ~ (student loans)
time: religion
timeliness & lack of timeliness: religion

graced
graced with the talents
grandstanding (noun)

grandstanding
his request is just ~ (for an exhumation)
this is nothing to do with protecting rights but ~

performance: theater

grapevine (through / over the grapevine)

through the grapevine
I heard ~ that...

over the (international surfer’s) grapevine
word traveled quickly ~ (big waves)

through the (college) grapevine
word got back to him ~

heard through the grapevine
I ~ that...

♦ Hawaii has the “coconut wireless” or the Coconut Wire. The Philippines have the Bamboo Telegraph. Ghanaians can hear things via “the talking drum.” From time immemorial, as Ibrahim al-Koni tells us, the desert winds have brought rumors and reports to the Sahrawis. Americans can “hear it through the grapevine,” or hear a report or account through the rumor mill. Italians say “per sentito dire” which basically means, “heard it said,” and they hear gossip “voci di corridoio” which means “hall voice” or “voices in the hall.” These systems operate by word-of-mouth, or, nowadays, the Internet.

gossip: plant

grapple (verb)

grappling with their aftermath
the US is still ~ (9/11 attacks)
grapples with (deepening) recession
the city ~

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sports & games / verb / wrestling

grasp (comprehend)

grasped (that)
Dallaire quickly ~… (Rwanda genocide)
grasp the concept
it is so easy to ~, but… (a puzzle)
grasped the fact
within a few months he had ~ that… (a toddler)
grasp the idea
they can’t yet ~ that… (toddlers)
grasp the importance
most toddlers don’t yet ~ of…
grasp the news
his brother said the family was still trying to ~
grasped the significance
minutes later, he ~ of that moment…
grasp the potential and risks
they have been among the first to ~…
grasped early
  he and other technophiles ~ how important…
difficult (for people) to grasp
  it's ~ (a physics concept)
difficult to grasp
  it is very ~ our situation…
quickly grasped
  I ~ what he was trying to do and…

comprehension & incomprehension: hand / verb

grasp (in one's grasp)

in our grasp
  what was once ~ is now beyond our reach
in their grasp
  Wolves looked to have victory ~ with a two-goal lead (lost)

attainment / possession: hand

grpas (out of one's grasp)

out of his grasp
  but success was ~

attainment / possession: hand

grap (attainment)

grasp of (spoken) English
  he had a limited ~ (foreign teaching assistant)

attainment: hand

grap (possession)

grasp of reality
  my husband's tenuous ~ slipped away (brain injury)
firm grasp
  infantry leaders must have a ~ of how to motivate…

snatched from their grasp
  victory was ~ (athletes)

possession: hand

ggrassroots

grass-roots democracy
  the kind of ~ the Founding Fathers envisioned

grassroots efforts
  ~ by citizens' groups

grass roots level
  go back home to the ~

d bases: ground, terrain & land
  perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain & land / position

ggrate (verb)
grates on people
  it's something that just ~ (government helps banks)

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb

ggrave (symbol)
watery grave
  when the sub is raised from its ~
deatgh & life: sign, signal, symbol

ggrave (place)
watery grave
  when the sub is raised from its ~
place: burial / death & life

ggrave (dig one's grave)
dug their own grave
  they ~ (a basketball team that failed)
destruction: burial / death & life
  fate, fortune & chance: burial / death & life / verb

ggraveyard (graveyard of the Turks, etc.)
graveyard of the Pacific
  the region is known as the ~ for its winter storms

known as the graveyard of the Turks
  Yemen is ~ (maqbarat al-Atrak)
destruction: epithe
  epithe: death & life

graveyard (place)
graveyard of ships
  the reef is a veritable ~
graveyard of the Turks
  Yemen is known as the ~ (19th century)

mariners' graveyard
  Cape Horn is a ~

veritable graveyard
  the reef is a ~ of ships
watery graveyard
  Truk Lagoon is a ~ for hundreds of ships

place: burial / death & life

graveyard (destruction)

graveyard of bilingual education
  if sense prevails, Massachusetts will be seen as the ~

graveyard of (international) diplomacy
  Iran has been the ~

graveyard for the Americans
  Falluja will be a ~ (Iraq)
graveyard spiral
pilots call this the ~ (flying)

destruction: burial / death & life
gravity

gravity of the situation
realizing the ~, he jumped on the grenade
enormous gravity
a crisis of ~ has arisen
understood the gravity
if clients truly ~ of the risks (climbing Everest)

substance & lack of substance: atmosphere / weight

gravy
mop up the last bit of the gravy
they tried to ~ (profiereers)
cost & benefit: food & drink

gravy train
gravy train
more people want to get on the ~ than stop it (doctors)
cost & benefit: food & drink

gray (gray area)
gray area
the Web site operates in a ~ of Russian law (spam)
legal and ethical gray area
a ~ (using drugs for interrogations)
certainty & uncertainty: color

Great Gatsby
Korea’s Great Gatsby
he is known as ~ for his lavish lifestyle (Big Bang’s Seungri)
money: allusion / epithet
epithet: money
green (green with envy)
green with envy
I was ~
♦ “Green With Envy: Why Keeping Up With the Joneses is Keeping Us in Debt” (A book.)

feeling, emotion & effect: color
greenhorn (person)
greenhorn
the conditions turn veterans into ~s (flying in Alaska)

experience: animal / horn / person
person: animal / color

green light (noun)
green light
a judge has given the ~ to…
green light to proceed
I was given a ~
cultural green light
we give a ~ to drinking (alcohol / US)
gave me the green light
she ~ to do the project
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol

green light (verb)
green-lighted the deal
he heads one of the agencies that ~ (government)
green-light a film
the one person who can ~
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol / verb
green-lighted (and green-lit)
green-lit and budgeted
the security revamp was ~, but... (Maersk IT failure)
got green-lighted
his show ~ as a two-hour pilot (TV)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: color / sign, signal, symbol
greet (verb)
greeted the death with relief and elation
Iraqis ~
greeted the announcement
applause ~
greets customers
the dazzlingly lit shop ~ with gunmetal gray shelves
greet me
first to ~ was the smell of hamburgers frying...
greeted them
the squalid labor camps that ~ (Black Okies in California)
perception, perspective & point of view: speech / verb
greeted
greeted by an alarming sight
as I prepared to rappel over the lip, I was ~
perception, perspective & point of view: speech
gremlin (noun)
gremlin
~s love to destroy machinery
a ~ lives inside and makes the camera go all kooky
a ~ is an elusive and mischievous flaw (computing)
gremlin in the (track) computers
a ~ crippled on-track betting
gremlin in the software
there appears to be a ~
gremlin in the system
there appears to be a ~
common gremlin
radio-wave interference is a ~ (cellphone buzz)
affliction: creature
grenade (noun)
hand grenade
he is a ~ with a loose pin
character & personality: explosion
grenade (disruption)
thrown a grenade into the heavyweight landscape
Andy Ruiz Jr has just ~
disruption: explosion
gridlocked
gridlocked
climate policy is ~, with no chance of a breakthrough
♦ This term relates to vehicles caught in a traffic jam.
obstacle & impedance: journeys & trips
grill (verb)
grill him on arrangements
she began to ~ for the party
grilled (oil industry) executives
members of a House subcommittee ~ (oil spill)
grills passengers
Israel uses in-flight guards and ~ (terrorism)
speech: fire / verb
coercion & motivation: fire / verb
accusation & criticism: cooking / verb
grind (grind away, etc.)
grind away
just put your head down and ~
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism / verb
grind (grind to a halt)
grind to a halt
England's workplaces were set to ~ (football fever)
innovation could gradually ~ (low returns on capital)
without the parts, factories would soon ~
grinds to a halt
a surface transportation system that ~
ground to a halt
traffic on the expressway ~
France ~ (May 1968)
his career ~ soon after (architect)
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb
failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb
ground to a halt
price stability: mechanism
difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism
grinding (grinding poverty, etc.)
grinding deflation
Spain faces years of ~
grinding poverty
the region suffers from ~
grinding (Big East) season
it's hard to stay fresh during a ~ (sports)
grinding (82-game) season
it's a ~ (NBA)
grinding ugliness
he experienced the ~ of racism at his high school
long, grinding (m)
we need to end this ~ war
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism
difficulty, easiness & effort: mechanism
grind on (verb)
grinds on
as the revolt ~ (Syria)
investigations grind on
~ (politics)
starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb
grind out (verb)
grind out the classics
    some musicians are content to ~ (versus new work)
creation & transformation: manufacturing / tools &
technology / verb
grip (in the grip)
in the storm's grip
    all Eastern Province cities were ~ (rain, wind, dust)
in the grip of a (slow-burning) rebellion
    the nation is ~ against the regime
control & lack of control: hand
fictive possession: hand
grip (come to grips)
    come to grips with the new reality
    unions are trying to ~
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb
grip (control)
grip of terror
    Saddam Hussein's ~ is being loosened (war in Iraq)
grip on Iraq
    Hussein's three-decade-long ~
grip on Nasiriyah
    US forces tightened their ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
grip on this country
    the king's ~ may be eroding
grip on power
    his ~ is still firm
    his ~ is slipping
    government's grip
    a sign that the ~ was loosening
king's grip
    the ~ on this country may be eroding
rebels' grip
    the ~ is being loosened (Iraq)
viselike grip
three-decade-long grip
    Hussein's ~ on Iraq
iron grip
    the coup leaders are keeping an ~ on the country
grip (on this country) may be eroding
    the king's ~
grip (on the area) waxed and waned
    their ~ (Chinese / Xinjiang)
loosened their grip
    tradition, ideology, and religion have ~ in the West
tightened their grip
    US forces ~ on Nasiriyah (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
control & lack of control: hand
oppression: hand
gripped
gripped by uncertainty
    she was ~
feeling, emotion & effect: hand
grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
grist for their mill
    he has given Democrats a whole lot of ~ (hearings)
grist for their (propaganda) mill
    the leaks will be more ~
grist for the tabloid mill
    his attention-grabbing antics are ~
grist to the mill
    this is ~ of those who dislike the pope (sex abuse)
sensational grist
    he news was ~ for conspiracy theorists and the far right
provided the grist
    the report ~ for a lot of conspiracy theories
    ♦ Grist is grain that is ground to make flour.
content: farming & agriculture / plant / wheat
grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
    political grit
    candidates will need ~ to defeat the incumbent president
survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances
commitment & determination: materials & substances
ground (area)
fertile ground for spammers
    Russia is a ~ and hackers
area: ground, terrain & land
ground (fertile ground)
fertile ground for spammers
    Russia is a ~ and hackers
growth & development: farming & agriculture / ground,
terrain & land / plant
ground (high ground)
moral high ground
    if the US is to keep the ~, we need to…
    there is no longer any ~ left to stand on (diplomacy)
    the ~ can be lonely terrain
    ♦ "We look for songs that mean something. Higher ground. You know, everybody know where the higher ground is. It sure ain't here on earth. It's above us. So we all want to go to the higher ground." (Clarence Fountain of the Blind Boys of Alabama.)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ground, terrain & land

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: direction
behavior: direction

ground (break ground)

break new ground
we are trying to ~ in this area (public diplomacy)

importance & significance: ground, terrain & land
importance & significance: farming & agriculture / infrastructure

ground (get off the ground)
got off the ground
the project died before it ~
the task force never ~

growth & development: flying & falling / verb
growth & development: ground, terrain & land

ground (give ground)
give-no-ground (m)
the ~ defensiveness
gave no ground
he showed no fear and ~ (Pfc. Jesse Buryj / Iraq)
gave (significant) ground
Trump ~ (a treaty)

resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / ground, terrain & land / verb
ground (gain ground)
gained ground
a number of states ~ in math (educational testing)
the rebels ~ against government forces
gaining ground
life is cautiously ~ over death and fear (Algeria)
the sport is ~ (public in-door ax-throwing)
the campaign to free them was ~ (Cardiff Three)

progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land / verb
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement

losing ground
climate science is ~ with the public

lost ground
a hope that a secular Algeria is gaining ~

reclaimed ground
he ~ for the theater most thought had been abandoned

progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land / verb
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement

held his ground
he elected to ~ to protect his fallen comrade

holding her ground
she is ~ and not giving in

stand our ground
we must ~ on education and health care (budget cuts)

stood their ground
the mayor and the police chief both ~ (criticism)
the enemy fighters ~

resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / ground, terrain & land / verb
dominance & submission: animal / ground, terrain & land / verb

ground (cover ground)
covered a lot of ground
his speech ~
covers a lot of (historical) ground
the movie ~, from…

extent & scope: ground, terrain & land / verb
ground (prepare the ground)
prepare the ground for a (crucial) referendum
the elections will ~ (Sudan)

preparing the ground for it
he’s ~ (emergency declaration)

bases: ground, terrain & land / verb
readiness & preparedness: / ground, terrain & land / verb

ground (both feet on the ground)
have both feet on the ground
she does appear to ~ (a mature girl)

character & personality: ground, terrain & land

ground (shaky ground, etc.)
shaky ground
their relationship is on ~
the franchise is on ~ (troubled NBA team)

unplowed ground
when we got onto ~ (interview)

flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land

equilibrium & stability: ground, terrain & land

ground (firm ground, etc.)
comfortable ground
steer the conversation to more ~

friendly ground
don’t assume Ireland will be ~ for the pope (sex abuse)

safer ground
then they’d be on ~ (by following procedure)

firm ground
the show is still struggling to find ~

flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land
equilibrium & stability: ground, terrain & land

ground (on the ground)
on the ground
he is ~ covering the protests (a foreign correspondent)
the Red Cross and other organizations are ~ (disaster)
presence & absence: ground, terrain & land
perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain & land

ground (go to ground)
went to ground for a few months
he ~ but then resurfaced (wanted by Hague)
concealment & lack of concealment: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting / verb
appearance & disappearance: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting / verb
protection & lack of protection: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting / verb

ground (common ground)
find common ground
they want to bridge the divide and ~ (gun control / suicide)
seek common ground
I call upon all of us to ~
reach common ground with Iran
the US has been unable to ~
concede common ground to his adversaries
he will not ~

division & connection: ground, terrain & land

ground (middle ground)
middle ground
there's no ~ with him
people either support or condemn, there's no ~
finding ~ is still elusive (compromise)

division & connection: ground, terrain & land

groundbreaking
groundbreaking leader
Wilma Mankiller was a ~ (Cherokee)
groundbreaking research
she has done ~
groundbreaking story
the results of this ~
groundbreaking (gene-therapy) studies
the magazine has published many ~

importance & significance: farming & agriculture
importance & significance: ground, terrain & land

ground rule
ground rules
the new post-Cold War ~
new ~ might help
♦ A ground rule modifies a rule to a particular place, pitch or field.
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sports & games

groundswell
groundswell of hostility
there has been a ~ toward outsiders (migrants)
groundswell of support
there is not yet a ~ for sweeping change
groundswell moment
we're at that ~ (rising demand for antibiotic-free meat)
♦ A groundswell refers to a swell at sea.

amount & effect: sea / wave

groundwork
groundwork
laying the ~ for a ceasefire in the Middle East
groundwork for a ceasefire
laying the ~ in the Middle East
groundwork for his own undoing
he had laid the ~
decades of groundwork
~ typically precede any real advances (psychiatry)
laid the groundwork
he had ~ for his own undoing

bases: ground, terrain & land

ground zero
ground zero in the New Economy
Austin is ~
ground zero of the (anti-vaccine) movement
California is ~
ground zero for climate change
Miami is ~
ground zero for (race-based) street gangs
California is ~
ground zero for sea-level rise
Miami is ~
snowboarding’s ground zero
Lake Tahoe is ~

location / place: nuclear energy

grow (increase)
grew (more than) 700 percent
the number of women in prisons and jails ~
increase & decrease: plant / verb
grow (grow the economy, etc.)
grow in their careers
medical professionals like him, who are looking to ~
grow our economy
we need to ~
he is growing the strength
he is ~ of a dictator by meeting with him (diplomacy)
growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
growing (increasing)
growing criticism
his policy is the subject of ~
Increase & decrease: plant
growl (verb)
growling at each other
ten minutes later, you're both ~
speech: animal / sound / verb
conflict: animal / sound / verb
sound: animal / verb
grownup (person)
grownup in the room
he positioned himself as the ~, the worldly chaperon
experience: person
growth (cancerous, etc.)
cancerous growth
he refers to the other country as a ~
affliction: health & medicine
growth & development: health & medicine
grumble (noun)
draw grumbles
Spain’s Civil Servants ~, And Envy
elicited grumblings
the statement ~ and cross-talk in the chamber (England)
♦ “I think you might start seeing some grumblings on Capitol Hill that this
is not the way it’s supposed to be done.” (An ABC reporter, speaking on
camera.)

resistance, opposition & defeat: sound
guard (off guard)
caught the US off guard
Iran's response ~
caught off guard
he is ~ (a diplomat / surprising information)
residents said they were ~ (by a tornado)
caught off guard by the ferocity
scientists were ~ of the eruption
caught off-guard (last year) by a (flu vaccine) shortage
caught me off guard
he ~
caught (even) meteorologists off guard
the storm ~
totally caught off guard
Jeanette was ~
readiness & preparedness: military
protection & lack of protection: military
guard (on guard)
on guard for any signs
we are ~ of infection (doctor)
readiness & preparedness: military
protection & lack of protection: military
guard (changing of the guard)
changing of the guard
I'm glad to see a ~ (liberal attitudes in sports)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: military
dismissal, removal & resignation: military
guard (lower one's guard)
lowered their guard
they thought they were in private and ~ (naked photos)
protection & lack of protection: military / verb
readiness & preparedness: military / verb
guard (keep one's guard up)
keeps her guard up
she ~
protection & lack of protection: military / verb
readiness & preparedness: military / verb
guardian (protection)
guardian of his reputation
she became the ~ after his death (writer)
protection & lack of protection: military / person
guardrail (behavior)
guard rails
what are the ~ to make sure that technology does no harm
guard rails of our democracy
they have been ignoring the ~ (ethics in government)
♦ This seems to relate to behavior, and the danger of going outside of the
guardrails to follow one's own path. In that sense, going outside of
the guard rails seems to imply crossing a (behavioral) line. So much for
thinking "outside of the box"!
protection & lack of protection: infrastructure
behavior: boundary
guinea pig

I can understand why I was used as a ~ (hospital)
I convinced my sister to be the ~ (Brazilian bikini wax)
be my ~, and I'll give you a free tattoo
we are being used as ~s (new rules in soccer)

♦ “Be my guinea pig, and I’ll give you a free tattoo.” Is that a good idea?

experimentation: animal

guide (verb)

guided him into the gang
he ~
guides him
Islam ~
direction: journeys & trips / verb
directing: journeys & trips / verb

guide (person)

spiritual guide
the cult became her ~
direction: journeys & trips / person
person: direction / journeys & trips

guide (nonperson)

used the stars as guides
they ~
direction: journeys & trips

gulf (division)

gulf of difference
human groups often regard each other across the ~
gulf of mistrust
there was a ~ (newspaper and government)
gulf of misunderstanding
the ~ is only growing (Saudi-US post-9/11)
gulf between the haves and the have-nots
the ~
gulf between leaders and people
antiwar marches reveal ~
gulf between rich and poor
the widening ~
gulf between the two
there's a huge ~ (kinds of companies)
gulf between the two departments
the ~ (police helicopters, firefighters)
gulf in class
the game exposed the ~ between these two clubs (soccer)
gulf in their worldviews
the ~ appears unbridgeable (2 academics)

widening gulf
the ~ between rich and poor

cultural, linguistic, and political gulfs
telemedicine can bridge ~ (countries)
symbolizes a (wider, more basic) gulf
the Moei River ~ between Burma and Thailand

division & connection: sea

gum up (verb)
gum up the system
his purpose was to (politics)

functioning: mechanism / verb
failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb

gumbo (mixture)
gumbo of traditions
the music of New Orleans is a ~

identity & nature / mixture: food & drink

gun (verb)
gunning for an (immediate) attack
they are ~ (Israel versus Iran)
gunning for me
why are you ~ (dispute)
gunning for a mistrial
the defense is ~
target: verb / weapon

jump the gun
don't ~

eagerness & reluctance: sports & games / verb

gun (hold a gun to one's head, etc.)

with a gun to their head
the Iranians would never negotiate ~

holding a gun to the head
the US is ~ of Canada (tariff negotiations)

coercion & motivation: weapon / verb

gun (under the gun)

under the gun
the deadline puts us ~

oppression: weapon

fate, fortune & chance: weapon

gun (criticism)

turn their guns on Bill Barr
I think it laughable to see Democrats ~ (politics)

accusation & criticism: weapon
gun-shy
a little gun-shy
  he may have felt ~ bout getting married again
eagerness & reluctance: weapon
guru (person)
  adventure guru
    the magnum opus of ~ Ray Jardine
  computer guru
    the N.S.A.'s alienation from the ~s
  motivational guru
    he is not a traditional lacquer-haired ~
  style guru
    Cosmo's ~ Elaine Farley
  software guru
    a popular ~ named Tim O'Reilly
  relationship and self-esteem guru
    ~ Phil McGraw
message: person / religion
knowledge & intelligence: person / religion
person: religion
gush (verb)
gushed about her (Sophia Loren) looks
  People magazine ~
gushed about parenthood
  he ~
gushed about him
  she ~ (praise)
speech: verb / water
amount & effect: verb / water
gush (noun)
  trickle, flow, gush
    we had a theory called, "~" (rescuing hostages)
movement: water
amount & effect: water
gut (destroy)
gut the presidency
  the generals tried to ~ (Egypt)
gut the program
  the Republicans are trying to ~
gutted a (historic) building
  the huge fire that ~
gutted the kitchen
  a fire has ~ of a wooden clubhouse at a holiday park
gutted by fire
  body discovered in house ~
gutted by the fire
  the landmark building was ~ within a matter of hours
destruction: hunting / stomach / verb
gut (feeling)
gut feel
  he has a ~ for what the voter thinks (politics)
gut feeling
  I went with my ~
    he was seized by a ~ of lurking danger
    range estimation by "~" is subject to error
    you may have some ~s that could be terribly wrong
gut instinct
  I would never again go against my ~s (climber)
    her ~ told her that he was lying
    trust your ~s
    I followed a ~ and chose to run the rapid (kayaker)
gut feelings and emotions
  neural systems tap into ~
gut feelings and intuitions
  people are often influenced by ~
"cop's gut"
  when a ~ tells him to stop someone
gut told me
  my ~ tells me
knew in her gut
  she ~ that her son was dead too
feeling, emotion & effect: stomach
judgment: stomach
analysis, interpretation & explanation: stomach
knowledge & intelligence: stomach
guts (insides)
guts
  someone had tended to its ~, if not its skin (old rifle)
bases: stomach
guts (courage)
took (a lot of) guts
  it ~ to do what he did
  ♦ No guts, no glory!
courage & lack of courage: stomach
gutted (feeling)
gutted for you
  I am so ~ and your family (terminal diagnosis)
gutted for the players
  I'm ~ (coach on tough soccer loss)
gutted with the way
  we're ~ things have gone (tough soccer loss)
gutted when
she said she was ~ she heard the news

**feeling, emotion & effect: hunting / stomach**

**gutter (in the gutter / decline)**

in the gutter
  morale is ~

decline: direction / infrastructure

**gutter (in the gutter)**

get (down) in the gutter
  I refuse to ~ with him

behavior: direction / infrastructure

**gutter (out of the gutter)**

get your mind out of the gutter
  you need to ~ (preoccupation with sex)

behavior: direction / infrastructure

**gutter (end up in the gutter)**

end up in the gutter
  if you don't do well in school, you'll ~

decline: direction / infrastructure

**gutter (gutter politics, etc.)**

gutter politics
  this is ~ of the lowest sort

behavior / decline: direction / infrastructure

**gut-wrenching (adjective)**

gut-wrenching memoirs
  incredible personal testimony, ~ (the Blitz)

gut-wrenching testimony
  he heard ~ of bullying and heartbreaking stories

gut-wrenching visit
  Kerry made a ~ to Hiroshima

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / stomach**

**H**

**habit**

kayaking habit
  he works mainly to support his ~

support his (kayaking) habit
  he works mainly to ~

enthusiasm: addiction

**hack (hack something / endurance)**

hack the pace
  Isaac wasn’t sure he could ~ (child actor)

**survival, persistence & endurance: verb**

**hack (get into)**

hack the NSA
  he managed to ~

**protection & lack of protection: blade / verb**

computer: blade / verb

**hack (fix)**

hack
  tech can optimize, or “~”, any aspect of our lives

hacks for coping
  ~ with extreme heat (heat waves, warming climate)

+ Lifehacker offers “tips and tricks for getting more done in less time.” (A Website.)

**amelioration & renewal: blade / verb**

computer: blade / verb

**hackles (raise hackles)**

raise some hackles
  this will ~

raised hackles in Switzerland
  the proposals have ~ (EU restrictions on firearms)

+ Piloerection is a sign of emotional arousal. In chimpanzees, it will cause the hair on their shoulders to stick straight up. At the same time, chimpanzees might hoot and throw pebbles.

**feeling, emotion & effect: animal / dog / hair / verb**

conflict: animal / dog / hair / verb

**haggle (verb)**

haggle over forming
  political factions continue to ~ the new government

position, policy & negotiation: money / verb

**haggling**

diplomatic haggling
  the resolution went through much ~ (U.N.)

position, policy & negotiation: money

**hail (in a hail)**

in a hail of (police) bullets
  they died ~

in the (initial) hail of fire
  ~, 2 soldiers were wounded

**amount & effect: snow & ice / storm**

**hail (noun)**

hail of criticism
  the ruling drew a ~ from the legal community

hail of gunfire
  the Humvee desperately tried to escape the ~

hails of (machine-gun) fire
the Allied troops who braved ~ on Normandy’s beaches

amount & effect: snow & ice / storm

Hail Mary

Hail Mary pass
legal cliffhangers include a ~ in 2009 (Death Row)
Hail Mary (legal) strategy
the legal team went for a sort of ~

fate, fortune & chance: football / religion / sports & games

hair (resemblance)

leaf hair
~s can help identify different kinds of oaks

root hairs
~ (oak tree)

resemblance: hair

hairpin (shape)

hairpin turns
fans lined the ~ (Tour de France)

shape: hair

hair-raising

hair-raising glimpse
a ~

hair-raising trip
a ~

feeling, emotion & effect: hair

hair-trigger

hair-trigger temper
he had a ~
had developed a ~ (steroid abuser)

initiation: weapon

hair’s-breadth

within a hair’s-breadth
she was ~ of losing her place in the tournament (sports)

proximity: hair

half-baked (adjective)

half-baked idea
this ~ will pose a threat to Democrats (politics)

flaws & lack of flaws: cooking

half-hearted

halfhearted (m)
I made a ~ effort to learn French

commitment & determination: heart

hall (halls of academe, etc.)

halls of academe
plagiarism can result in banishment from the ~

power: infrastructure

hallmark

hallmarks of al-Qaida
officials said the attacks bore the ~

hallmark of the administration
arrogance has been the ~ (Bush)

hallmarks of a bygone era
quaint ~

hallmarks of eating disorders
one of the ~ is denial (lying about eating habits)
bore the hallmarks
officials said the attacks ~ of al-Qaida

bore (all) the (al Qaeda) hallmarks
the operation ~ of careful planning

Hallmarks were marks on precious metals like silver and gold used to indicate purity.

evidence: mark

hallowed (adjective)

hallowed (boxing) venue
Madison Square Garden is a ~

importance & significance: religion

halo (noun)

bestow a halo
the US news media was eager to ~ (Amanda Knox)

behavior: religion

halt (a screeching halt)

came to a screeching halt
his wild success ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement

ham-handed

vague and ham-handed
the legislation is ~

oppression: hand

hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.)

Thor's Hammer
~ is an unusual rock formation in Bryce Canyon

proper name: hammer

hammer (verb)

hammered the Karakoram
severe blizzards ~ (Gasherbrum IV)
hammered home
  he ~ a simple message

hitting, slamming & lashing: hammer / verb

hammer (noun)
hammer of the law
  the ~ has to come down on misconduct (social media)

combined arms hammer
  the ~ that is about to strike him (Saddam)

force: hammer
  hitting, slamming & lashing: hammer

hammered out
hammered out in negotiations
  important deals are ~ (W.T.O.)

hammered out between opponents and supporters
  in a compromise ~

creation & transformation: hammer
hammer out (verb)
hammered out a compromise
  opponents and supporters ~ (state song)

hammered out the trick
  after some trial and error they ~ (kayakers)

creation & transformation: hammer / verb

hamstrung
hamstrung
  the administration is ~

♦ Wikipedia has an entry for "Hamstringing" and defines it as follows:
  "Hamstringing is a method of crippling a person or animal so that they
cannot walk properly, by cutting the two large tendons at the back of the
knees." The article goes on to say that the hamstringing of chariot horses
was mentioned in the Bible, to ruin an enemy's valuable weapon, and
that in Brazil hamstringing was used to punish Capoeira players.

constraint & lack of constraint: animal / health & medicine
constraint & lack of constraint: leg / walking, running & jumping

hand (on hand)
on hand
  thousands of police and security forces are ~ (Indian
  festival)
on hand for the ceremony
  bishops, archbishops and the papal nuncio were ~
on hand to help
  she was ~ with translations for the doctor

presence & absence: hand

hand (at the hands)
at his hands
  many people suffered ~ (a deposed ruler)
at the hands of a mob
  it was the eighth killing ~ this year (Peru)
at the hands of an intimate
  victims of violence ~
at the hands of an (Illinois) mob
  he died ~ (Joseph Smith)
at the hands of police officers
  he sought death ~ (suicide by cop)
at the hands of police officers
  his plan was to die in a fire or ~
at the hands of slave owners
  the abuse his ancestors suffered ~
at the hands of a spouse, lover or relative
  a woman's risk of death ~
death at the hands of the Americans
  a martyr's ~
harm at the hands of other students
  protect students from ~ (gays)
vioence at the hands of his father
  protect a four-year-old boy from ~
vioence at the hands of an intimate
  victims of ~
violence at the hands of a partner
  patients who are victims of ~
death at the hands of a spouse, lover or relative
  a woman's risk of ~
death at the hands of police officers
  he sought ~
die at the hands of police officers
  his plan was to ~ (suicide by cop)
die at the hands of the IRA
  innocent people will ~
died at the hands of an (Illinois) mob
  he ~ (Joseph Smith)

hand (at hand)
at hand
  success is ~
  perhaps a cure is ~
close at hand
  they believe the end of the world is ~

proximity: hand

hand (in hand)
well in hand
  she has her diabetes ~

control & lack of control: hand
suffer at the hands of other students
many ~ (transgenders)
suffer at the hands of (unscrupulous) employers
these immigrants ~

**involvement / responsibility: hand**

**hand (dealt a hand)**

difficult hand
they have been dealt a ~

**fate, fortune & chance: cards**

**hand (control)**

in the hands of the Justice Department
the case is already ~
in the hands of (a few large) companies
the industry is now consolidated
in the hands of the people
the power was not ~
in the hands of one person
the power was ~
in small-town hands
a small-town paper ~
in (very) capable hands
the department is ~ (police)
in good hands
the health of publishing is ~ (readers)
in great hands
I knew she was ~ (assisted climber on Mt. Everest)
in private hands
the restaurants are ~
in the right hands
~, that stage has enormous possibilities (a theater)
steady hand
Barr is supposed to be ~, he’s a veteran (attorney general)

rests in the hands
power and wealth ~ of a small elite
leave it in the judges’ hands
he didn’t ~ (boxer knocks out opponent)

**control & lack of control: hand**

**hand (possession)**

in the hands of the enemy
she didn’t want to be left ~ (POW)
how to escape if you are ~
in the hands of US forces and their allies
in 2 months Afghanistan was ~
in enemy hands
the ridgetop was still ~ (Afghanistan)
in Palestinian hands
that would leave the hilltop ~
in Kurdish hands
Kirkuk, home of ethnic Turks known as Turkomen, is ~
in loving hands
she left the restaurant ~ (died)
changed hands
the town has ~ in the past month (rebels vs. government)
leave the hilltop in Palestinian hands
that would ~
left in the hands
she didn’t want to be ~ of the enemy (POW)
fall into the hands
weapons that may ~ of terrorists (NBC, etc.)
fallen into the hands
regions that have ~ of the insurgents
fall into enemy hands
he feared the machine gun could ~
we don’t want the information to ~
fell into rebel hands
the stronghold of Korhogo ~
fall into the (wrong) hands
it could ~
fell into the wrong hands
if the information ~
if Pakistan’s nuclear weapons ~
get the (lost) items into the right hands
Y staffers try to ~
get their hands on booze
minors using online ordering to ~
get their hands on (classified) information
lawyers can’t ~
leave Saudi hands
nor did the whole $55 billion ~
get weapons out of the hands
trying to ~ of local warlords (Afghanistan)
make their way into the hands
treated, the beaver skins ~ of fashion designers
push (Pakistani) society into the hands
~ of the militants

**possession: hand**

**hand (bite the hand that feeds one)**

bit the hand that feeds him
he ~ (boxer withdraws without a good reason)
• I place a date in your lips, and you spit the pit in my face! (Arabic.)

**help & assistance: hand**
hand (tie one’s hands, etc.)

tie our hands
  this will ~ (a trade union)

their hands were tied
  there was no loss of expertise but their ~ (security)

the company’s hands would be tied
  the ~ if… (a court ruling)

free hand
  gave him a ~ to go after terrorists

constraint & lack of constraint: hand / verb

hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)

hand
  our ~s are clean (allegations of abuse)
  my ~s are clean (I’m not guilty)

dirty hands
  only ~ can get the job done (counterterrorism)

guilt: hand / hygiene
involvement: hand / hygiene

hand (bloody hands, etc.)

blood on (his) hands
  he has ~ (terrorist financier)
  he has ~ (a politician)

blood on (their) hands
  we say they have ~ (companies that used slaves)

bloody hands
  once again the ~ of terror have struck

has bloody hands
  he ~ (a politician)

guilt: blood / hand
involvement: blood / hand

hand (upper hand)

upper hand
  crews are finally getting the ~ on the wildfire
  protesters are starting to gain the ~ (France)
  Republicans have the ~ inside the legislative arena
  it was Peru who had the ~ after the break (soccer)

dominance & submission: hand
control & lack of control: hand

hand (iron hand, etc.)

iron hand
  the country needs an ~ to lead it

with an iron hand
  I will deal with terrorism ~ (a leader)

with an authoritarian hand
  President Lansana Conté has ruled Guinea ~
with a firm hand

the police will act ~ to avoid any violence (protests)

with a strong hand
  he ruled Chile ~ (a dictator)

ruled (Guinea) with an authoritarian hand
  President Lansana Conté has ~ since 1984

oppression: hand

hand (strengthen one’s hand)

strengthen our hand
  this will ~ (politics)

power: cards / verb

hand (fate)

in the hands of God
  whatever happens, we are ~ (Muslim)

in the hands of their deity
  the Samburu believe their fate lies ~, Nkai

in the hands of the jury
  the case is ~
  his fate is ~

in God’s hands
  I’ve put the whole thing ~ (woman with brain tumor)
  it is all ~ now (fate of a very sick person)

out of our hands
  it’s all ~ now (fate)

put the whole thing in God’s hands
  I’ve ~ (woman with brain tumor)

fate, fortune & chance: hand

hand (have one’s hands full)

have their hands full
  they are going to ~ (sports team facing game)

difficulty, easiness & effort: hand

hand (help)

hand
  his ~ is extended to all factions (a politician)

hand of welcome
  extending the ~ to… (a biker convention)

helping hand
  she often lends a ~

Helping Hand (m)
  ~ Program (to pay electric bills)

pair of hands
  Mom asked if they could use an extra ~ (volunteer)

lend a hand
  can I ~ (help)

join hands
people are willing to work together and ~ to solve the problem

use a hand
  I could ~ (I need help)

help & assistance: hand

hand (get out of hand)

get out of hand
  in the event that hostilities ~

got out of hand
  it ~ (a fight)

gotten out of hand
  British worry that drinking has ~ (lager louts)

getting out of hand
  this is ~ (proliferation of blogs, etc.)

let her problems get out of hand
  she ~ (at school)

argument got out of hand
  an ~, and soon Vicente lay dead...

celebrations got out of hand
  fan ~ after several college football games...

hostilities get out of hand
  in the event that ~...

matters got out of hand
  then ~, a knife appeared, and Igor wound up...

drinking has gotten out of hand
  British worry that ~ (lager louts)

restraint & lack of restraint: hand / verb

control & lack of control: hand / verb

hand (take matters into one's hands)

taken matters into their own hand
  citizens have ~ (New Orleans recovery)

taking matters into their own hands
  people are ~ (oil spill)

took matters into our own hands
  and so we ~

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb

hand (on the one / other hand)

on one hand
  ~, he wanted to help Kevin...

on the other hand
  ~, anthropological writings have suggested...
  ~, the reverse is true for...
  ~, there are just as many people who...
  the bathrooms, ~, have made no progress (Russian trains)

comparison & contrast: hand

hand (hot hand)

with the hot hand
  finding the teammate ~ (basketball)

success & failure: cards / temperature

hand (sit on one's hands)

sat on their hands
  they ~ on the sidelines (politicians)

sit on their hands
  they're going to ~ and not show up and vote

action, inaction & delay: hand / movement / verb

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb

hand (try one's hand)

tried his hand at bricklaying
  he ~

attempt: hand / verb

hand (throw up one's hands)

throw up their hands
  faced with a crisis, leaders simply ~ (fail to act)

threw up his hands at the subpoenas
  he ~ (an overreaching request for information)

action, inaction & delay: gesture / verb

hand (the right hand vs. the left hand)

right hand
  the ~ didn't know what the left hand was doing
  "The right hand didn't know what the left hand was doing." (Janet Reno, on FBI counterterrorism prior to 9/11.)

consciousness & awareness: hand

hand (work)

head, heart, hands and health
  youngsters pledge their ~—hence, 4-H

work & duty: hand

hand (worker)

short of hands
  we're ~ (not enough guards)

work & duty: hand / person

hand (all hands on deck)

all hands on deck
  it was ~ (response to measles epidemic)
  it was ~ (law enforcement responds to Austin serial bomber)

work & duty: boat / hand / person

difficulty, easiness & effort: boat / hand / person

survival, persistence & endurance: boat / hand / person
hand (force someone’s hand)

force his hand
they will try to ~ by holding that over his head

correction & motivation: hand / verb
strategy: hand / verb

hand (overplay one’s hand)

overplayed that hand
he knew he had ~ (retting a rise out of people)
overplayed their hand
they ~ (Google versus the EU)

restraint & lack of restraint: cards / verb

hand (hands off)

Hands Off Mueller
a crowd gathered for a “~” protest (politics)

protection & lack of protection: hand

handcuff (verb)

handcuffed themselves with turnovers
the Irish ~ (football)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime / hand / verb

handcuffed

handcuffed by government
business should not be ~
handcuffed by his history
he seems ~ of not…
handcuffed by (Isner’s) big serve
he was ~ (tennis)
handcuffed to my desk
I’m ~ most of the day (work)

feel handcuffed
they ~ by the rules (military)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime / hand

hand down / out (punishment, etc.)

handed down a (5-year) prison term to a man
a judge ~ convicted of...

punishment & recrimination: hand / verb
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / verb

handed (given)

handed to you
respect is not something ~ (leadership role)

handed a (one-year) suspension
he was ~ for his third violation (NFL)

handed a victory
the extremists will have been ~ (failure of peace talks)

handed (its first major) setback
the terrorist group was ~ when...

giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand

handed down / out (punishment, etc.)

handed down for murder
beheading is routinely ~ (Saudi Arabia)

handed over in Asia
the harsh penalties ~ for trafficking don’t deter

punishment & recrimination: hand
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand

handed down (transmission)

handed down through the organization
the money, ~, comes from…

handed down by your ancestors
an heirloom ~ for generations

handed down by generations
a story ~ of Blackfeet

transmission: hand / verb

handed over (possession)

handed over to the authorities
she was captured and ~ (in Saudi Arabia)

handed over to the Native Americans
the bones should be ~

immediately handed over
Russia demanded that the fighters be ~

possession: hand / verb

handful (amount)

handful of areas
only a ~ remain outside of the U.N. control

handful of cities
a ~ have outlawed the sport (cockfighting)

handful of items
they could only salvage a ~ (eruption)

handful of olives
trees hold little more than a ~ (drought and freeze)

handful of (American) soldiers
a ~ jumped off the planes (Ivory Coast)

handful of studies
bolstered by a ~

handful of (no-frills) airlines
one of a ~

amount: hand

handicapped

handicapped by glare, mirages, and haze
the defenders are ~ (desert war)

ability: health & medicine
condition & status: health & medicine
functioning: health & medicine

hand in hand (go hand in hand)
go hand in hand with fortitude
    hardship and suffering ~ and courage
goes hand in hand with (military) might
    information warfare ~
go hand in hand
    in Africa, where oil and corruption often ~
    energy conservation and saving money ~
    ethics and booze rarely ~ (selling alcohol)
gone hand in hand
    for centuries, the words “Vatican” and “intrigue” have ~
went hand in hand
    paperwork and legwork ~ (a job)
    fear and filth ~ (E.B. Sledge in combat on Okinawa)

relationship: hand
division & connection: hand

handle (get a handle on something)
get a handle on the problem
    they tried to ~, but...
get a handle on this problem
    how can we ~ (crime)

control & lack of control: hand / verb

handle (deal with)
handle it on a case-by-case basis
    airlines ~, without a blanket policy
handle whatever
    she can ~ the future brings
handle (such) cases
    it had specialists to ~ (a hospital)
handle the deluge
    companies couldn't ~ of holiday orders
handle disaster
    flaws in the nation's plans to ~ (New Orleans hurricane)
handle it
    let the cops ~...
handle the load
    the system can barely ~ (airline travel)
handled (most of) the negotiations
    he ~ with the Americans (an Iraqi)
handle pain
    a person may ~ well one time and poorly the next time
handle stage fright

performers have various ways to ~

control & lack of control: hand / verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb
action, inaction & delay: hand / verb

handle (shape)
Big Dipper's handle
    the ~
curved handle
    the Big Dipper's ~

shape: hand

handled
handled with (great) care
    it is a delicate matter that must be ~

relationship: hand
division & connection: hand

handle (get a handle on something)
get a handle on the problem
    they tried to ~, but...
get a handle on this problem
    how can we ~ (crime)

control & lack of control: hand / verb

handle (deal with)
handle it on a case-by-case basis
    airlines ~, without a blanket policy
handle whatever
    she can ~ the future brings
handle (such) cases
    it had specialists to ~ (a hospital)
handle the deluge
    companies couldn't ~ of holiday orders
handle disaster
    flaws in the nation's plans to ~ (New Orleans hurricane)
handle it
    let the cops ~...
handle the load
    the system can barely ~ (airline travel)
handled (most of) the negotiations
    he ~ with the Americans (an Iraqi)
handle pain
    a person may ~ well one time and poorly the next time
handle stage fright

performers have various ways to ~

control & lack of control: hand / verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand / verb
action, inaction & delay: hand / verb

handle (shape)
Big Dipper's handle
    the ~
curved handle
    the Big Dipper's ~

shape: hand

handled
handled with (great) care
    it is a delicate matter that must be ~

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand
control & lack of control: hand
action, inaction & delay: hand

handling
handling of complaints
    they are critical of police ~
handling of the epidemic
    questions about the ~
handling of the investigation
    the Navy's ~
Navy's handling
    the ~ of the investigation
police handling (m)
    critical of ~ of complaints
questions about the handling
    ~ of the epidemic

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: hand
control & lack of control: hand

handmaiden (help)

handmaiden of Saudi victory
    Israel was the unlikely ~

help & assistance: hand / person / royalty
person: hand / royalty

hand-me-down
hand-me-downs
    they got ~ from the previous year
hand-me-down Chevy Blazer
    a ~

possession / transmission: hand

handout

handout
    it's a hand up, not a ~ (charitable group)
handouts from friends and family
  he survives on ~
government handout
  ~s promote discontent and a sense of helplessness
small handout
  surviving on ~s
looking for handouts
  old friends came ~ (pro athlete)
help & assistance: hand
hand over (verb)
  hand over the task (of patrolling) to the Marines
  the Army will ~
  handed over control (of the plane) to Zurich
  Munich controllers ~
  handed over control to the mayor
  the State Legislature has ~ (school system)
  handed the documents over to the Justice Department
we voluntarily ~
  handed over the documents
we ~ (government official)

possession: hand / verb
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand / verb
handover
  handover of power
  standing in the way of a peaceful ~
hand-over ceremony
  Macao's ~
minefield handover
  ~ is an extremely important task
peaceful handover
  standing in the way of a ~ of power
possession: hand
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: hand
hands down (certainty)
  hands down
  it is one of the best restaurants in the world ~
  hands-down favorite
  the ~
  ♦ This relates to horse racing, jockeys and reins. It means, "without question."
certainty & uncertainty: horse
hands down (easily)
  hands down
  Green Destiny wins ~ (a computer)
  hands-down
  the Europeans would have won ~
won hands-down
  he ~
  ♦ This relates to horse racing, jockeys and reins. It means, "without much effort."
difficulty, easiness & effort: horse
hands-off
  hands-off approach
  continued to take a ~
  those with a more ~
  his belief that government should maintain a ~ to the economy
  a ~ towards the tribal areas (Pervez Musharraf)
hands-off policy
  at times a ~ can be justified (diplomacy)
control & lack of control: hand
avoidance & separation: hand
hands-on
  hands-on approach
  a ~
  hands-on individual
  he is a ~ (controlling micromanager)
  hands-on organizer
  she is a ~
  control & lack of control: hand
  avoidance & separation: hand
handwringing
  handwringing
  the ~s who said, "It's not going to work!" (war)
hand wringers, worriers and whiners
  ~ (foreign policy)
certainty & personality: hand / person
handwringing
  handwringing from Democrats
  there has been a lot of ~ (but no action)
criticism and handwringing
  the ~ is far from over (foreign-policy issue)
feeling, emotion & effect: hand
action, inaction & delay: hand
eagerness & reluctance: hand
handwriting (on the wall)
  handwriting
  the ~ is on the wall
fate, fortune & chance: Bible / religion / writing & spelling
hanging (hanging offense)
  hanging offense
  his mistakes did not constitute a ~
judgment: justice / violence
punishment & recrimination: justice / violence

**hang on to (verb)**

hang on to their senate seat
democrats are trying to ~

**possession: hand / verb**

**hangover**

historical hangover
the Dow is a ~ from a period we can’t sober up from yet

$1 billion hangover
Vancouver faces a ~ from its Olympic party

feeling the hangover
the bubble has burst, and now we’re ~ (economy)

left us with a hangover
the real estate binge has ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol**

**harbor (verb)**

harbors (Colombian) rebels
Venezuela ~

**protection & lack of protection: boat / sea / verb**

**harbor (safe harbor)**

safe harbor for those
her workshops and retreats offer a ~ who are…

**protection & lack of protection: boat / sea**

**hard (character)**

hard man
he is a ~

**character & personality: hardness & softness**

**hardball (noun)**

corporate hardball
they are playing ~

**position, policy & negotiation: baseball / sports & games**

**hard-charging (adjective)**

hard-charging maverick
he was a ~ who shook up football (a coach)

**character & personality: horse**

**harden (increase)**

hardened opinion against China
the maritime clash has ~ (Japan)

hardened its policy against the Roma
the government has ~ (France)

hardened his grip
he has ~ on power (leader)

hardened its position
Iran has ~

hardened its rhetoric
the government has ~ about the danger

**increase & decrease: hardness & softness / verb**

**harden (feelings)**

harden them
some parents bully their kids to ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: hardness & softness / verb**

**harden (protect)**

harden schools
ways to ~ (school shootings)

**protection & lack of protection: hardness & softness / verb**

**hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)**

hardened criminal
an official report described him as a ~

jail-hardened (m)
he was a ~ felon (teen rapist of Tamara)

well trained and battle-hardened
the fighters are ~

**strength & weakness: materials & substances experience: hardness & softness**

**hardened (other)**

hardened to the plight
he has become ~ of the poor

**feeling, emotion & effect: hardness & softness**

**hard-hearted (adjective)**

hard-hearted (m)
hard-edged, hard-headed, ~ educational methodologists

**character & personality: heart**

**heart: hardness & softness**

**hard-nosed (adjective)**

hard-nosed attorney
he was a very ~

hard-nosed defender
he’s a ~ (soccer)

**character & personality: hardness & softness / nose**

**harness (verb)**

harness social media to stoke
they ~ their base (young female politicians)

harness technology to enhance
~ productivity

**control & lack of control: animal / horse / verb**
**harmony (in harmony)**

in harmony
all the factions are ~

in harmony with nature
we need to live ~

in harmony with the ocean
for centuries the islanders lived ~

live in harmony
Muslims, Christians and Jews ~

worked in harmony
we ~ for four months

**unanimity & consensus: music**

**harrowing (adjective)**

harrowing to watch
it was ~ (stock-market free fall)

harrowing danger
his heroic actions in the face of ~ (military)

harrowing plunge
a day after a ~ in the stock market

harrowing scene
some of the ~s are hard to watch (film about earthquake)

harrowing tale
survivors told ~s (plane crash)

♦ A harrow is an agricultural device used to chop up clods of dirt. In the 1949 film *Border Incident* starring Ricardo Montalban and George Murphy, the character played by George Murphy, Jack Beames, meets his fate under a harrow. His end is, literally and figuratively, harrowing.

**feeling, emotion & effect: farming & agriculture**

**harvest (verb)**

harvest grapes
you don’t ~ from planting thorns

♦ You don’t harvest grapes from planting thorns. (An Arab proverb.)

**product: farming & agriculture**

**hash out (verb)**

hash out a compromise
diplomats are trying to ~

**creation & transformation: food & drink / verb**

**hat (role)**

grammar hat
with my strict ~ on, I have to say that’s called the irrealis

NPR hat
I’ll speak personally now as opposed to wearing my ~

submissive-woman hat
the in-charge hat vs. the ~

in-charge hat
the ~ vs. the submissive-woman hat

institutional hats
he has acquired so many ~ he is now irreplaceable

**role: clothing & accessories**

**hat (old hat)**

old hat for you
is winning the Kentucky Derby ~

**experience: clothing & accessories**

**hat (take off one’s hat to somebody)**

take my hat off to you guys
I ~ (admiration and respect)

**achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / hat / verb**

**hat (hold on to your hat)**

hold on to your hat
~, for the first time ever...

♦ This means a big surprise and may relate to a rollercoaster.

**feeling, emotion & effect: gesture / hat / verb / wind**

**hatch (verb)**

hatched the murders
she ~ with two men she’d been sleeping with

hatched a (clever) scheme
he ~

**initiation: bird / verb**

**hatch (escape hatch)**

tried-and-tested escape hatch
he has his ~ (just asking a question, not accusing)

**pursuit, capture & escape: mechanism**

**hatched**

plan was hatched
initiation: bird

hatchet (bury the hatchet)
bury the hatchet
let's ~

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: blade / military / Native Americans / verb

hatchet job (noun)
hatchet job on him
the New York Times did a complete ~

accusation & criticism: blade

hatchet man (person)
hatchet man
he dispatched him as his ~
your ~ has done a real number on me

coercion & motivation: blade / Native Americans / person

haul (for the long haul)
in it for the long haul
I think we're ~ (an intractable bear problem)

time: burden / weight

haul (verb)
hauled him (off) to jail
a sheriff's deputy ~
hauled him to the station
the police ~ (Mexico)
hauled tourists
bus-sized Tundra buggies ~ (Churchill / polar bears)

transportation: animal / verb

hauled in (verb)
hauled in for questioning
he was ~ by the Mabaheth (Saudi Arabia)

transportation: animal

hauled off (verb)
hauled off (again) to prison
he was ~
hauled off from her reception to jail
the "Bridezilla" was ~
hauled off in handcuffs
she was ~ (a "Bridezilla," from her wedding reception)

transportation: animal

haunt (verb)
haunt me to this day
those images ~… (soldier back from Iraq)
haunted this city for (four) decades
closing the door on a crime that has ~
haunt a community for generations
some murder cases ~
haunted me for a decade
the things I saw have ~ (Rwanda genocide)
haunt us forever
the horror of the final days will ~ (family of hostage)
haunt me the rest of my life
it will ~ (comment by murderer)
haunt the Ethiopians
such tactics may come back to ~ (torture / rebels)
haunt New York
the mystery of what really happened continues to ~
haunts the country
El Salvador's bitter civil war still ~

haunted detectives
Ms. Beal's murder had long ~ on the case (finally solved)

haunt him
the day will ~ (Tour de France crash)

haunted him
during these years, Annapurna always ~ (3 attempts)

haunts every (kayak) instructor
this is the type of accident that ~

haunted his life
he recounted the racism that ~

haunted me
these simple words ~

haunting scientists
these problems had been ~ for years (vaccine)

case (still) haunts him
the unsolved ~ (a detective)

images haunt me
those ~ to this day (soldier back from Iraq)

continues to haunt
the mystery of what really happened ~ New York

still haunts
the unsolved case ~ him (a detective)

come back to haunt
gossip can ~ you
what you do on the computer can ~ (queries)

affliction: creature / verb

haunted

haunted by that day
she has spent her life ~

haunted by a death
he is ~ he was unable to prevent

haunted by demons
he was a deeply troubled man, ~ (Timothy Treadwell)

haunted by (perceived) failures
he was ~ (a suicide)

haunted by nightmares
she is ~ (veteran of war in Iraq)

haunted by evil spirits
the Udehé say places like that are ~ (forest)

became haunted
Father Desbois ~ by the history of the Nazis in Ukraine

remain haunted
city residents ~ by the murders

affliction: creature
haunting

haunting images
the ~ of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks
~ of starvation (Africa)

haunting memory
the Irish have ~s of the famine
the ~s returned (of a murder)

haunting premonition
she awoke with a ~ (mother of soldier who died)

haunting story
the most ~ in the annals of exploration

most haunting (m)
it is one of the ~ stories in the annals of exploration

familiar and haunting (m)
those ~ notes (24 notes of Taps at funeral)

painful and haunting (m)
the most ~ story involves SuAnne Big Crow

feeling, emotion & effect: creature

havens (safety)
safe haven
at the nadir of the financial crisis, gold was a ~

safe haven for priests
the archdiocese provided ~ accused of sex abuse

♦ A haven was a harbor.

protection & lack of protection: boat / place

hawk (noun)

Israeli hawks
many ~ were against the attack (1981)

violence: animal / bird
predation: animal / bird

hawkish (adjective)
hawkish stance
his ~ on Iran (an Israeli)

violence: animal / bird
predation: animal / bird

hay (make hay, etc.)
made (political) hay out of it
everybody ~, used it for their own purposes (terror event)

content: farming & agriculture / plant

haze (perception)
alcoholic haze
he spent much of the next four decades in an ~

perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark
consciousness & awareness: light & dark

head (into the future)

heading
no one knows where the region is ~

head into November
as we ~, crunch time (college football)

head into this labor-day weekend
as we ~

direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb
future: direction / movement / verb

head (reason)

head
people reason mostly from their hearts, not their ~s

analysis, interpretation & explanation: head

head (butt heads)
butted heads
we ~
the mayor and the union have ~ ever since he took office

conflict: animal / horn / verb

head (scratch one’s head)

scratching its head
Congress is ~ (over confusing remarks by President)

scratching our heads
a lot of us are ~, with so many of these questions (criminal case)

scratching their heads
scientists are ~ as to how…
scientists are ~ to understand why…

comprehension & incomprehension: gesture / head / verb

head (shake one’s head)

shake our heads at the folly
we like to ~ of those who…

leave you shaking your head
the details of this scandal just ~ (college admissions scandal)

comprehension & incomprehension: gesture / head / verb

head (clear head)
clear head
~s are needed (vs. sleep deprivation)

consciousness & awareness: head

head (keep / lose one's head)
keep your head
~ and don't go crazy
lose his head
in the closing laps he seemed to ~ (F1 racecar driver)

control & lack of control: head / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: head / verb

head (head and shoulders above)
head and shoulders
~. he is above everybody else (a skier)
head and shoulders above anyone else
he is ~ in his ability to lead (a politician)
head and shoulders above most of his colleagues
he is ~ (a politician)
head and shoulders above most of his peers
for that, he is ~ (a musician)
stand head and shoulders
the two ~ above the rest (baseball players)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: height
superiority & inferiority: height

head (heads will roll, etc.)
head
his ~ is under the guillotine every season (a coach)
calls for his head
there have been ~ (a government official)
heads will roll
~ if...

punishment & recrimination: head / violence
fate, fortune & chance: head / violence

head (keep one's head up)
keep your head up
things are tough, but you've got to ~
keep your heads up
I spoke to some players and said ~ (after huge loss)

resiliency: direction / head / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: direction / head / verb

head (keep one's head down)
keep their heads down
it might be better for them to ~
kept their heads down
they see themselves as stoics who’ve ~ (politics)

protection & lack of protection: gesture / head / military / verb

head (down on one's head)
come down on his head
a lot of opprobrium has ~ (whistle-blower)
brought down on his head an avalanche
the book has ~ of publicity
brought her family's condemnation down on her head
her marriage ~
brought the establishment down on her head
her early success ~ (a poet)
brought disaster down on her head
her meddling appears to have ~

♦ Such things as light poles or glass can fall or rain down on one's head,
if one is unlucky!

failure, accident & impairment: head

head (go over one's head, etc.)
got over my head
what he said just ~ (not understood)

comprehension & incomprehension: head / verb

head (get in over one's head, etc.)
got in over their heads
they ~ (crime)

Involvement: water / verb

head (turn heads)
turned heads
her good looks and confidence ~

attention, scrutiny & promotion: head
feeling, emotion & effect: head

head (hold something over one's head)
hold over his head
we needed to have something to ~ (child murder investigation)
holding that over his head
they will try to force his hand by ~

coercion & motivation: head / verb
fate, fortune & chance: head / verb

head (rear its head, etc.)
reared its head
the Ebola virus has ~ again
♦ Only something negative raises its head: anti-Semitism, the Ebola virus, tyranny, etc.

appearance & disappearance: head / verb
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: head / verb
head (turn something on its head)

turn the paradigm on its head
the plan will ~ (homelessness)
disruption: head / orientation / verb
head (get one’s head around something, etc.)

get their heads around
that’s very difficult for people to ~ (murder trial)
get my head around it
I still can’t ~
wrap our minds around what
it was hard to ~ had happened
comprehension & incomprehension: head / verb
head (come to a head)
came to a head
it all ~ in December of 1989 (ACT UP vs. Catholic Church)
♦ This could relate to a pimple or boil and basically means crisis.
development: health & medicine
headache

headache
the decision is one in a series of ~s for… (a company)
headache for the administration
this will be a ~ (oil spill)
headaches (continued to mount) for the (German) Pope
the ~ (Pope Benedict)
transportation headache
the daily ~s faced by many
biggest headache
one of our ~s is simply counting the fish (scientist)
caused headaches
his mercurial personality ~ (an employee)
affliction: health & medicine
headed

headed
futurists are asking questions about where we’re ~ (tech)
headed for a train wreck
we are ~ (a politician about budget proposal)
headed in the wrong direction
Washington is ~ (politics)
direction: journeys & trips
future: direction / movement
headhunter

headhunter
he was recruited by a management ~
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting
headlong

headlong retreat
the Americans are in ~
haste: horse
head-scratching

head-scratching comments
he has made some ~
comprehension & incomprehension: gesture
head-spinning

head-spinning
the explanations have been ~
head spinning week
it’s been a ~ in Australian politics
feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability
head start

head start on the assignment
I want to get a ~
initiation: head / journeys & trips / movement
starting, going, continuing & ending: head / journeys & trips / movement
timeliness & lack of timeliness: head / journeys & trips / movement
heads-up (warning)

heads-up
you should have given us a ~ (warning)
warning: direction / head
head-to-head

head-to-head confrontation
~ versus guerrilla war (US in Iraq)
head-to-head match
China beats Russia in ~ (chess)
Nadal leads their ~s by 14-7 (tennis)
went head to head with the conservatives
the liberals ~ over the issue
went head to head over the issue
they ~ of…
take on Romney head-to-head
Santorum will ~ (nomination process)
conflict: animal / horn

headway (noun)

making any headway
we’re not ~ at all (poor economy)

progress & lack of progress: boat / journeys & trips / movement

headwind (noun)

headwind on the economy
this is the biggest ~ (poor housing market / Obama)

headwind to rebuilding
communication missteps have created a massive ~ trust

social and economic headwinds
shielding the town from the larger ~ buffeting small towns

obstacles & imped ance: atmosphere / boat / wind

heal (verb)

heal itself
remove dams and let nature ~

heal all those problems
Prince Salman is the doctor to ~ in Saudi Arabia

healed the rift
the years have not ~ between Shipa and her family

heal (old racial) wounds
help ~

heal (old) wounds
the project will ~ (slavery)

heal the wounds
a ceremony of reconciliation meant to ~ left by the War

heal the housing market
we need to write down mortgages to ~

heal and renew
the water has power to ~ (Medicine Lake)

never healed
the rift between his mother and father ~ (divorced)

time to heal
it’s going to take ~ (emotionally)

♦ “A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not.” (A Turkish proverb.)

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb

health (condition)

health of publishing
the ~ is in good hands (readers)

health of a (free) society
good journalism is essential to the ~

industry’s health
absorption, an indicator of the ~ (apartment market)

economic and cultural health
problems that threaten the ~ (reindeer people)

intellectual health
the ~ of publishing is in good hands (readers)

threaten the environmental health
problems that ~ (reindeer people)

get back to fiscal health
we need to ~

condition & status: health & medicine

healthy (condition)

healthy
10 percent thought conditions were ~ (economy)
corporate profits are ~
the spacecraft is ~ and we’re excited (Nasa’s New Horizons spacecraft)

healthy economy
his government’s failure to build a ~

condition & status: health & medicine

healthy (strength)

healthy fear
a ~ is the best defense (of scorpions / desert warfare)

healthy skepticism
in science, a ~ is a professional necessity

strength & weakness: health & medicine

heap (verb)

heap abuse (even) on the home team
Philly fans ~

heaped contempt on her (hated) rival
she ~ (a politician)

heaped invective upon whites
the hate group ~ they saw (at the National Mall)

heaped praise on him and his work
officials have ~ (police commander)

throwing, putting & planting: pile / verb

heart (allegiance)

way to (anyone’s) heart
the quickest ~ is with an MCL gift card (ad)

captured the ~
he has ~ and minds of Americans (Olympic athlete)

captured my heart
the first time I saw him, he ~ (an orphan)

give my heart
I’m going to be very cautious who I ~ to

invest my heart in someone
I can’t ~ who might not stick around
win the hearts
we can ~ and minds of people (AID official)

pledge their head, heart, hands and health
youngsters ~ — hence, 4-H — to such goals as… (4-H)

allegiance, support & betrayal: heart

heart (hearts and minds)

battle for hearts and minds
he is losing the ~ at Stamford Bridge (a soccer coach)

hearts and minds will follow
get them by their balls and their ~ (military)

captured the hearts and minds
he has ~ of Americans (Olympic athlete)

win the hearts and minds
we can ~ of people (AID official)

allegiance, support & betrayal: heart

heart (basis)

heart of cycling
France, the ~ (Tour de France, etc.)

heart of courtesy
the ~ is respect for persons

heart of the (US) economy
small businesses have become the beating ~

heart of the fair
the ~ is the 4-H livestock show (US)

heart of jazz
improvisation is the ~

heart and soul
racing has lost its ~ (death of popular driver)
he was the ~ of our team (mountaineering)
he poured his ~ into the game (Larry Bird / basketball)

envy at its heart
much anti-Americanism has ~

at the heart of the argument
~ is the claim that…

at the heart of the debate
~ lies the question…

at the heart of the matter
Kandahar is again ~ (war)

lies at the heart
a failure of political will ~ of the problem (polio)

get to the heart
we need to ~ of the matter

goes to the heart
this argument ~ of the issue

bases: heart

heart (young at heart, etc.)

at heart
~ he's an optimist

Bedouin at heart
Sheikh Zayed remained a ~ (Abu Dhabi / UAE)

young at heart
she remains ~

wild at heart
the play is a hymn to the ~

character & personality: heart

identity & nature: heart

heart (identity)

in your heart
if you're born here it's ~ (a festival in Ivrea, Italy)

♦ Home is where the heart is!

Identity & nature: heart

heart (commitment)

heart
she said her ~ was now set on revenge (a Palestinian)

heart of a champion
she has the ~ (coach speaking of child gymnast)

heart of a (true) champion
he showed the ~ (boxer / title bout)

heart of a (true) warrior
battered and bloodied, but showing the ~ (boxing)

heart and intuition
have the courage to follow your ~ (Steve Jobs)

hearts and souls
their ~ are in it (NASA scientists)

heart and stomach
his ~ for boxing are no longer there

fighter’s heart
he showed a true ~ (boxing)

lion’s heart
I have a ~ (winning boxer after hard match)

a lot of heart
anybody else would have quit, he's got ~ (a boxer)

no heart
he had ~ (fighter who quit)

close to people's hearts
issues that are ~

heart is set on revenge
her ~

follow your heart
~ and dare to take risks
lost heart
many people have ~ (problems, obstacles)

showed (real) heart
he ~ (a boxer)

fought his heart out
he ~ every fight (the great Arturo Gatti)

sang her heart out
she ~

fight with their hearts
they ~ more than their heads... (two boxers)

fights with his heart on his sleeve
he always ~ (boxer Johnnie Tapia)

leave your heart on the floor
~ (a basketball player, exhorting his teammates)

left his heart in the ring
he ~ every time he fought (the great "Thunder" Gatti)

put her heart into it
she really ~ (an art project)

poured our hearts into the movement
for over 20 years we've ~ (social justice)

played with (unquestioned) heart
he ~ and leadership (dead quarterback)

fights with (a lot of) heart
he ~ and determination

took the (hate) message to heart
they ~ (Hispanic gang vs. blacks)

commitment & determination: heart

heart (beating heart)
beating heart of her work
nature as a springboard to the sacred is the ~ (a poet)

dead & life: heart / sound

heart (eagerness and reluctance)
for the faint of heart
it's not ~ (a horror film)
combat is not ~

eagerness & reluctance: heart

heart (half-hearted, etc.)
with all her heart
she loved him ~

halfhearted (m)
I made a ~ effort to learn French

half-hearted performances
boxers content to turn in uninspiring, ~

amount: heart

heart (container)
hearts are filled with joy
our ~ that she is safe (missing woman found)
in the heart of another
who really knows what lies ~
goodness in their hearts
the justness of their cause, the ~ (military)
hatred in the hearts
this statement fuels the ~ of all the Arabs
hole in my heart
it left a huge ~ (loss of a baby)
in your heart
if you're born here it's ~ (a festival in Ivrea, Italy)
joy in their hearts
they watched with ~s (Manger Square / Bethlehem)
lies in the heart
who really know what ~ of another
hold her in our hearts
we're going to ~ (Lori Piestewa)
fills my heart with joy and laughter
she ~

instill fear into people's hearts
the main purpose is to ~ (China versus Tibetans)
put fear in your heart
my granddaddy said don't ever let no one ~ (authority)
find room in my heart
I tried to ~ for him, but I couldn't
from the bottom of my heart
I'd like to tell you ~ how sorry I am...

thank you from the bottom of my heart
I ~

♦ "The Hopi believe that when they die, they bring snow and moisture back to the people. So the snow is fitting." (Vanessa Charles, commenting on the death of Lori Piestewa, killed in action in Iraq, and a rare April snowfall.)

heart: container

heart (empathy)
kind heart
she has a ~
open heart
she has the most ~ (open to all)

heart of flint
she was an elderly female with a ~

hearts of stone
those State Department bureaucrats have ~

our hearts go out to the families
our ~ (mass shooting)
heart goes out to him
your ~ (drowned child)

bless your heart
well, ~

have a heart
please, ~

show some heart
why can’t you ~

touch (American) hearts
suffering Afghan children ~

♦ “They wouldn’t give a crippled crab a crutch if they owned a lumber yard.” (John Artis on the Patterson, New Jersey police and justice system in the 1960s and 70s.)

empathy & lack of empathy: heart

heart (a broken heart, etc.)
broken heart
you can overcome a ~
broke my heart
it ~ to see...
breaks my heart
it ~ to see these kids (politician / injured soldiers)
unbreak my heart
~, say you love me again (song)

feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / heart / mechanism
heart: functioning / mechanism

heart (center)
in the heart of North-West Frontier Province
Buner (boo-NAIR) lies ~ (Pakistan)
in the heart of peanut country
Albany lies ~ (Georgia)
in the heart of the (fall foliage) season
we are ~

heart of the city
just north of the ~
the Pul-i-Imam Bukhari bridge leading into the ~

heart of (California’s wine) country
the ~ (earthquake)

heart of the desert
invaders were never able to penetrate the ~ (Saudi)

heart of the forest
the Cuiabá-Santarém road, which slices through the ~

heart of Tanzania
the Wagogo Plains, the wild ~

commercial heart
Casablanca, a port city and the ~ of Morocco

industrial heart
Manchester, the ~ of the British Empire

lies in the heart
Buner (boo-NAIR) ~ of North-West Frontier Province
sits in the heart
Albany ~ of peanut country (Georgia)
penetrate the heart
invaders were never able to ~ of the desert (Saudi)

center & periphery: heart

heart (goal)

heart was (now) set on revenge
she said her ~ (Middle East)

set his heart on St. Joseph's Academy
he ~ (desired to attend it)

follow his heart
he decided to ~ (accept a job in different city)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: heart

heart (heart of stone, etc.)

heart of flint
she was an elderly female with a ~

heart of gold
he had a ~ (tribute for soldier killed in combat)

Hearts of Oak
the British have ~

hearts of stone
those State Department bureaucrats have ~

heart: materials & substances

heart (heart sank)

heart sank
my ~…. (news of murder of boy)

heart (just) sank
when I heard those words, my ~ (loss of brother)

feeling, emotion & effect: heart
feeling, emotion & effect: direction
heart: direction

heart (heavy heart)

heavy heart
we definitely have some ~s here (athlete injured)

with a heavy heart
~, he headed down the mountain
it is ~ that I…

with heavy hearts
we left ~ and broken spirits

with the heaviest of hearts
it is ~ that I have to tell you of the passing of our friend...

left with heavy hearts
we ~ and broken spirits
feeling, emotion & effect: heart
feeling, emotion & effect: weight
heart: weight

**heart (change of heart)**

change of heart
industry must undergo a ~ (exploitation vs. conservation)
h e went public with his ~ in an opinion piece (politics)
a ~ is a good legal strategy (terrorist cooperates)

belated change of heart
well, why the ~

undergo a change of heart
industry must ~ (exploitation vs. conservation)

**reversal: heart**

allegiance, support & betrayal: heart

**heart (shape)**

heart, round or oval (m)
whether you have a ~ face

shape of a heart
it was cut into the ~ (a yearbook)

drawing of a heart
a red-ink ~ in the palm of her left hand

He was wearing a T-shirt that read, "I heart Kosova."

The heart symbol only vaguely resembles the actual shape of a heart.

**shape: heart**

**heart (sincerity)**

with all her heart
she believed in his innocence ~ (wife of serial killer)

with all my heart
I honestly believe ~ that…

believe in you with all my heart
I ~

speaking from my heart
I am ~ when I say… (sincerity)

from the bottom of my heart
I'd like to tell you ~ how sorry I am…

thank you from the bottom of my heart
I ~

his heart was in the right place
he made mistakes, but his ~

his heart is (always) in the right place
~ (Sean Penn)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart**

**heart (by heart)**

play by heart
it is a fixed rule that instrumentalists shall ~ (concerts)

know symphonies by heart

conductors ~

know them by heart
we've heard those slogans for so many years that we ~

learned it by heart
he ~ (a long poem)

recite the Qur'an by heart
he can ~

**heart: memorization**

**heart (knife in the heart, etc.)**

knife in the heart
the date Feb. 6, 1958, is still a ~ (Man. U fan)

knife to the heart
it's a shocking ~ (idea of loss of Tangier Island to Atlantic)

**destruction: blade / creature / death & life / knife / heart**

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / death & life / heart / knife**

**heart (stake through the heart, etc.)**

put a stake through the heart of Row
there is a majority on the court willing to ~ (SCOTUS)

put a stake through their hearts
we definitely ~ (Operation Anaconda, Shah-i-Kot)

**destruction: creature / death & life / heart**

**heart (miscellaneous)**

heart
if it's wrong, then my ~ won't let me be right (love)

makes my heart sing
this kind of football ~ (Sawa Homare and team)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart**

**heartache**

heartaches and misery
all the ~ it causes (alcoholism)

deaths and resentments and heartaches
sorrows and heartaches
all the ~ of this life
~ versus joy and fulfillment (religion)

**feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation**

**heartbeat (in a heartbeat)**

in a heartbeat
if he could undo his actions he would ~

**speed: heart**

**heartbeat (noun)**

heartbeat of the cave
the ~ (dripping water)

death & life: heart / sound
heartbreak (noun)
heartbreak of (constant medical) crises
the ~ and setbacks
Heartbreak Hotel
the Hanoi Hilton included ~ and New Guy Village
died of heartbreak
I think he ~

feeling, emotion & effect: functioning
feeling, emotion & effect: heart
heart: functioning / mechanism

heartbreaking (adjective)
heartbreaking cry for help
his suicide attempt was a ~

feeling, emotion & effect: functioning
feeling, emotion & effect: heart
heart: functioning / mechanism

heartbroken (adjective)
heartbroken
he was ~
heartbroken city
Liverpool is a ~ (Hillsborough tragedy)

feeling, emotion & effect: heart
feeling, emotion & effect: functioning
heart: functioning / mechanism

heartfelt (adjective)
heartfelt commitment
a ~ to democratic values
heartfelt prayers
with ~, the families of the trapped miners waited…
heartfelt sorrow
we want to express our ~ (murder of young woman)

heartfelt views
her ~ got her in trouble with the authorities

feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart / sensation

heartland
heartland
two American kids growing up in the ~

heartland of China
Xi’an, in the antique ~, watered by the Yellow River

Amhara-speaking heartland
Gonder, in the ~ (Ethiopia)

Christian heartland
the ~ north of Beirut (Lebanon)

Yoruba heartland
Nigeria with its ~, Ibo strongholds and Hausa north

industrial heartland
in China’s ~

spiritual heartland
the province is the Talibans ~ (Helmand)

center & periphery: heart
identity & nature: heart

heartless

heartless so-and-so
he's a cool, ~ who…

empathy & lack of empathy: heart

heartsick

heartsick about it
we're ~ (brother of soldier facing tough tour in Iraq)

feeling, emotion & effect: heart
feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine
heart: health & medicine

heart-stopping

heart-stopping
her ~ beauty (a ballerina)

heart-stopping moment
it was a ~ (near-accident)

feeling, emotion & effect: heart
starting, going, continuing & ending: heart

heartthrob

heartthrob
the ~ Leonardo DiCaprio

feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation

heart-to-heart

heart-to-heart with her
it's been a while since I have had a ~ (dad / daughter)

heart-to-heart conversation
we had an open, ~ about sex

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart

heartwarming (adjective)

heartwarming
what's ~ about them is…

feeling, emotion & effect: heart / temperature
heart: temperature

heartwood

heartwood
the outer, lighter sap wood vs. central, darker ~
bark, sap wood and ~ (trees)

center & periphery: heart
heart-wrenching
heart-wrenching
  it's ~ (comment on murder of family)
heart-wrenching picture
  the ~s (Haiti earthquake)

feeling, emotion & effect: heart / sensation

heat (in the heat of passion, etc.)
in the heat of the moment
  he said some things he wished he hadn't ~
  I made my decision ~ (regret)
in the heat of passion
  threats are often thrown out ~
  manslaughter is the killing of another ~
  ~, man loses his better judgment
acted in the heat of passion
  her lawyer contended that she ~
kills in the heat of passion
  the defendant is held less responsible if he ~
committed in the heat of passion
  prosecutors believe the crime was ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

heat (pressure)
heat
  the administration is trying to keep the ~ on Venezuela
feeling the heat
  they are ~ (competition)

pressure: temperature

heat (turn up the heat, etc.)
turned up the heat
  then he really ~ by starting a Web site accusing…
turning up the heat on BP
  the president is ~
turning the heat up on its (long-time NATO) ally
  the U.S. is ~
turned up the heat (on the immigration debate) to scalding
  President Trump ~ this week…

coercion & motivation: temperature

heat (criticism)
a lot of heat
  Biden has gotten ~ recently about his record on race
take heat
  he’ll ~ for this

accusation & criticism: temperature

punishment & recrimination: temperature

heated (emotion)
heated argument
  the ~s in their bar
  I got into a ~ with him
heated (phone) conversation
  engaged in a ~
heated debate
  the ~ revealed deep political divisions (politics)
heated disagreements
  there have been ~ over troop levels (war)
heated discussion
  propelled scientists into a ~
  a ~ about the study results
heated dispute
  ~s over strategy and tactics are inevitable (officer corps)
heated exchange
  they got into a ~ (protester / local)
heated response
  their story drew a ~
heated rhetoric
  ~ is unlikely to disappear from politics
heated (business) rivalry
  in a ~, you must still consider ethics
heated falling out
  a ~ between the mayor, police chief
heated and emotional (m)
  after years of ~ debate, the university banned…
get heated
  when it comes to gun laws, things can sometimes ~
got heated
  he went to confront her, and things ~
grow heated
  arguments ~ (local government)
grew (more) heated
  the detective ~ as he spoke
remains heated
  the debate ~ (educational issue)

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

heatedly
debated heatedly
  Rwanda policy was ~ by US officials

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

heat up (verb)
heating up
  competition is ~
activity: temperature / verb
increase & decrease: temperature / verb
heaven (move heaven and earth)
moved heaven and earth to provide
we have ~ security (Olympics)
difficulty, easiness & effort: religion
heaven (environment)
cat heaven
in ~ it rains cream, and all the dogs are in zoos
♦ "After the turmoil [of W.W.II], it looked like heaven." (Military doctor who saw Andrews, North Carolina and decided to settle there. He spent the rest of his life there aiding the mountain people.)
environment / superlative: religion
flaws & lack of flaws: religion
heavy (amount)
heavy (Internet) user
she had been a ~ (murdered for clicks)
amount: weight
heavy (emotion)
heavy
things are getting a little ~, let's lighten things up
feeling, emotion & effect: weight
heavy (oppression)
heavy responsibility
I feel a ~ for these police failures (official)
oppression: burden / weight
affliction: burden / weight
heavy-handed
heavy-handed
I think the punishment was ~
heavy-handed response
the ~ of the government has invited criticism (to protests)
oppression: hand / weight
heavy-hearted (adjective)
heavy-hearted
she seemed ~
feeling, emotion & effect: heart weight
heart: weight
heavyweight (noun)
heavyweights of the industry
the meeting was attended by global ~ (mining)
substance & lack of substance: boxing / weight
power: boxing / weight
hector (verb)
hectors her children not to divulge
she ~ personal information online
♦ From the Trojan hero, transformed to mean braggart or bully.
coercion & motivation: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey / verb
heel (under the heel)
under the heel of (Saddam's brutal) regime
after decades ~ (Basra)
oppression: heel
heel (on the heels)
on the heels of (another) security breach
the report came ~
on the heels of the (debt-ceiling) debate
his came ~
came on the heels
the report ~ of another security breach
come on the heels
the protests ~ of the events elsewhere in the region
sequence: heel
heel (on one's heels)
on its heels
the government is ~ (versus the rebels)
put the defense on its heels
they ~ (football)
resistance, opposition & defeat: heel
heel (dig in one's heels)
dug in their heels
they have ~ and refuse to bend (negotiations)
resistance, opposition & defeat: foot / heel / verb
eagerness & reluctance: foot / heel / verb
heel (nip at somebody's heels)
nipping at his heels
24 rivals are ~ from every direction (politics)
affliction: animal / dog / predation / verb / wolf
predation: animal / dog / verb / wolf
heffalump (creature)
EU heffalump
the ~ has been taken behind the barn by the vet (Brexit)
♦ The Heffalump was a creature in A.A. Milne’s Winnie-the-Pooh and The House at Pooh Corner. It occurs only in Piglet and Pooh’s imaginations.
fantasy & reality: allusion / creature
heft (noun)
emotional heft
he depicted the struggles of black emotions with ~

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

**hegira (and hejira)**

hejira across the Himalayas to Tibet
he made that amazing ~ (the wonderful Heinrich Harrer)

**development: journeys & trips / religion**

**height (at the height)**

at the height of its popularity
he stopped drawing the strip ~ (a cartoonist)

**achievement, recognition & praise: ground, terrain & land**

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction

**heighten (verb)**

heightened fears
the report ~ of a second recession

**increase & decrease: direction / height / verb**

**heights (to new heights, etc.)**

heights of performance
it isn't likely to motivate employees to new ~

heights of stardom
she has ascended to the ~ (film actor)

new heights
it isn't likely to motivate employees to ~ of performance

ascended to the heights
she has ~ of stardom (film actor)

take their rivalry to new heights
they ~ (promotion for wrestling match)

taking flying to new heights
the new Boeing Dreamliner is ~

motivate employees to new heights
it isn't likely to ~ of performance

**achievement, recognition & praise: ground, terrain & land / height**

**heights (other)**

reclaim the heights
they have managed to ~ (tennis sisters)

**achievement, recognition & praise: ground, terrain & land**

heir (noun)

heirs to a great (and ancient) civilization
the Egyptian people are ~

political heirs
they are the ~ of the segregationist South

**transmission: family / history / money**

giving, receiving, bringing & returning: family / history / money

**hell (living hell, etc.)**

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

living hell
working there was a ~

living hell for pedophiles
prison can be a ~

Green Hell
travelers christened it the "~" (Mato Grosso)

escaped from a living hell
he ~ (POW)

make their wife's life a living hell
men who ~ (dowry scam)

**environment: religion**

**situation: religion**

**hell (hell to pay)**

hell to pay
later, they have ~ (people who cheat on their spouses)

**punishment & recrimination: religion**

**hell (Hell's Gate, etc.)**

Hell's Gate
~, the second big rapid (kayaking)
the Nahanni bends through a constriction called the ~

Hell Night
~, at the Citadel (Military School)

Hell’s Backbone
she drove down a road called ~ (southern Utah)

**proper name: religion**

**hell (situation)**

hell
I've been through ~

hell of war
in the ~, how does a chaplain hold on to faith

hell of a forced marriage
his bid to rescue his love from the ~ (Pakistani)

hell on earth
the Chinese Communist Party has transformed Tibet into a ~

hell on heels
she was ~ (a troubled young socialite)

sheer hell
this autumn is going to be ~ for him

divorce from hell
Alec Baldwin is living through the ~

scene from hell
he saw a number of bodies in a "~" (friendly fire)
slicks and (rhododendron) hells
  laurel ~ (Appalachia)

scare the hell out of you
  it will ~

put you through hell
  win, lose or draw, Holyfield will ~ (the great boxer)

transformed Tibet into a hell
  the Chinese Communist Party has ~ on earth

♦ I know I'm going to heaven 'cause I've spent my time in hell. (A veteran.)
♦ War is hell. (General William Sherman.)

situation: religion
environment: religion
survival, persistence & endurance: religion

hell (raise hell)
raising hell
  she was ~ there, too (TV star fights with cast mates)

behavior: religion / verb

hell (go to hell)
go to hell
  the politicians should all ~

Insult: religion

hellhole
hell-hole
  the state prison is a ~
world's hellholes
  humanitarian personnel in the ~
godforsaken hellhole
  a ~

environment: religion

hellish (adjective)
hellish days
  those ~ of stock car racing's infancy
hellish dust devils
  they had to contend with heat and ~

feeling, emotion & effect: religion

hell-raiser
hell-raiser
  he admits he was a ~ as a young man

Hellraiser Ball
  violence erupted at the motorcycle and tattoo expo, the ~

Hellraisers Ball
  the melee at the ~ resulted in one death

from hell-raiser to born-again Christian
  his conversion ~

behavior: religion

hell-raising
hell-raising drinkers
  ~ and womanizers

behavior: religion

helm (at the helm)
at the helm
  they have won with him ~ (a coach)
  we need a tough person ~ (Turkey)
  the church needed someone else ~ to stop the rot (a Pope)
at the helm of an organization
  she is leaving after a 2-year tenure ~ beset by controversy

can't help yourself
  I ate the whole thing, I ~

took the helm
  he ~ of the war this week
can't help myself
  I ate the whole thing, I ~

control & lack of control: boat

helm (other)
took the helm
  he ~ of the war this week
can't help myself
  I ate the whole thing, I ~

control & lack of control: boat

help (keep from, avoid)

couldn't help myself
  I ate the whole thing, I ~

restraint & lack of restraint: verb

helping (amount)

helping of praise
  there are two reasons to give the show another ~ (TV)

amount: food & drink

hemorrhage (noun)
hemorrhage of personnel
  the Pentagon is trying to stop the ~ (soldiers)

♦ “President Obama is sending an additional 17,000 American troops to Afghanistan, as part of his effort to try to put a tourniquet on the hemorrhaging war effort there.”

leaking: blood

herald (verb)
heralded the end
  the uprising ~ of the regime

herald a new era
  Republicans hope to ~ of limited government

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: royalty / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: royalty / verb

herald (noun)
heralds of winter
  snowflakes are ~

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: royalty
attention, scrutiny & promotion: royalty / verb
herculean (adjective)
herculean effort
we are involved in a ~
the ~ behind the 1969 moon landing
herculean task
squeezing the evidence into a 90-page document was a ~
difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion

herd (verb)
herded five victims into one cooler
they ~ and killed them (Brown’s Chicken & Pasta)
herded them into (army) buses
soldiers ~ (Palestinian suspects)
directing: animal / verb
control & lack of control: animal / verb
herd (ride herd)
ride herd on them
we need to ~
directing: animal / verb
control & lack of control: animal / verb
coercion & motivation: animal / verb

hesity (noun)
committing heresy
a law professor who lectures is a ~ (vs. Socratic method)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

heretic (person)
heretic
the party now treats him as a ~ (politics)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person / religion
person: religion

hermit (person)
hermit
is chronic bad breath turning you into a ~
modern-day hermits
in Japan half a million people live as a ~ (hikikomori)
isolation & remoteness / society: person
social interaction: person
avoidance & separation: person
person: acceptance & rejection / society
hermit (epithet)
hermit kingdom
Bhutan, once known as the ~ of the Himalayas
isolation & remoteness: epithet

heyday (noun)
heyday of Brazilian rock
the 1970’s was probably the ~
heyday of hotels
life after the Catskills’ ~
Kameny’s heyday
in ~, and my youth... (gay history)
Shanghai’s heyday
the colonial architecture that dates back to ~
’70’s heyday
his ~ (a singer)
since the heyday of LaFace Records
the strongest R&B vibes to emerge ~ (Atlanta)
achievement, recognition & praise: day
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day

hibernation (in hibernation)
in hibernation
the industry has been ~ for 20 years (the nuclear industry)
activity: death & life

hiccups (noun)
hiccup
the datacenter is having some ~s (down Websites)
we’ve had some ~s along the way
flaws & lack of flaws: bodily process
failure, accident & impairment: bodily process

hidden
kept the story hidden
she ~ for 20 years, never sharing it with anyone
concealment & lack of concealment: eye

hide (hide behind something)
hide behind anonymity
it’s easy to be forthright when you ~
hides behind a facade
he ~ of jokes
hides behind the nom de plume
the woman who ~ of...
hides behind a (tough-guy) posture
he ~
hides behind a locked door
the bureaucrat or politician who ~
hides behind a friendly face
fraud often ~
hides behind a fictitious name
he ~
hides behind innocuous phrase
she ~ (an administrator)
concealment & lack of concealment: direction / verb
hide-and-seek

game of hide and seek
  a very serious ~ (with Palestinian terrorist)

pursuit, capture & escape: sports & games

hidebound

hidebound bureaucracy
  a ~

constraint & lack of constraint: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

high (on high)

from on high
  there’s a clear directive ~ to investigate thoroughly (government)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: direction

high (on a high)

on a high
  he’s ~ right now and will use it for motivation (victor)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

high (high regard)

held in high regard
  he is ~

reputation: direction

high (emotion)

high
  emotions are ~

highs and lows
  so you suffer fewer energy ~ (diet)
  her eyes gleamed as she recalled the ~ (of her life)
  it’s a game of ~ (baseball)

emotional high
  it was an incredible ~

incredible (emotional) high
  it was an ~

get our hopes (too) high
  we should not ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

high (enthusiasm)

real high
  it’s a ~, you just get hooked (genealogy)

enthusiasm: addiction

highlight (verb)

highlights a tension
  the dilemma ~ within the ruling elite (China)

highlighted (major) weaknesses

the report ~ in the economy

attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / verb

high-minded (adjective)

high-minded politician
  it’s hard to find a ~

high-minded project
  he tried to raise money for his ~ (library)

character & personality: direction

mind: direction

high-powered (adjective)

high-powered law firm
  he has retained a ~ and says he is innocent

power: tools & technology

high priest

theory’s high priest
  General Petraeus, counterinsurgency ~…

message: religion

high-spirited

high-spirited
  if your child is ~, give her unstructured time

high-spirited man
  a ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

high tide

high tide of American greatness
  the ~ has passed

extent & scope: sea / tide

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: sea / tide

high-water (high-water mark)

high-water mark of student activism
  this was the ~ (school shootings)

high-water mark of his career
  it was the ~ (sports)

high-water mark of partisanship
  the vote was a ~ (Republicans versus Democrats)

high-water mark for religious participation
  1962 as the ~ in the US (Life Magazine)

extent & scope: flood

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: flood

highway (iceberg highway, etc.)

highways
  oceans are ~ rather than protective moats (geopolitics)

“iceberg highways”
  one of the four major ~ that lead beyond Antarctica
route: infrastructure

highway (my way or the highway)

- type-A-my-way-or-the-highway (m)
  he was a ~ guy

- allegiance, support & betrayal: walking, running & jumping
  unanimity & consensus: walking, running & jumping
  control & lack of control: walking, running & jumping

hijack (verb)

hijacked the agenda
  anti-Western countries have ~ (UN)

hijacked the debate
  she ~ to announce her candidacy (politics)

hijacked the (electoral) process
  organized labor has ~ in Canadian provinces

hijacked the revolution
  his opponents fear that he has ~ (politics)

control & lack of control: crime / verb
  taking & removing: crime / verb
  possession: crime / verb

hijacked

hijacked by the (economic) elite
  government has been ~

hijacked by her emotions
  she let herself be ~

hijacked by this group
  the Republican Party has been ~ (the Tea Party)

close & lack of control: crime
  taking & removing: crime
  possession: crime

hill (over the hill)

over-the-hill
  * "He's still talented, but he's on the other side of the hill now." (An older boxer.)

- decline: mountains & hills
  primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: mountains & hills

hill (difficulty)

psychological hill
  he has a ~ to climb

difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / mountains & hills

Hilton (Fontana Hilton, etc.)

Fontana Hilton
  the ~, a famous shelter on the Appalachian Trail

Hanoi Hilton
  the ~ included Heartbreak Hotel and New Guy Village

- Names like these are often ironic. The Fontana Hilton is a trail hut, but it is near the parking lot at Fontana Dam, where there are hot showers. Those showers are much appreciated by trail walkers.

proper name: infrastructure

hindsight (with hindsight)

with hindsight
  he said ~ he wouldn't have done it (forced to resign)

perception, perspective & point of view: direction
  past & present: direction

hint (noun)

hint of foul play
  there was no ~

evidence: speech

hip (joined at the hip)

politically joined at the hip
  the gay-and-lesbian and trans movements became ~

* The great Saudi pediatric surgeon Dr. Abdullah al-Rabeeah successfully separated a number of actual conjoined twins. We salute him and his great patron, King Abdullah.

division & connection: health & medicine

hit (arrive)

hit the big time
  he ~

hit some (real) low points
  I've ~ in my life

hit pay dirt
  he finally ~ (a researcher)
  on the fourth day, Fitch seemed to ~ (experiment)

hit the eddy
  he managed to roll up and ~ (kayaker)

hit a plateau
  if you slip up or ~, don't beat yourself up (weight loss)

hitting the bookstores
  new books on women and sex are ~

hit the weight room
  he ~ (basketball)

hit middle age
  now that we've ~

hit (long-track) speedskating
  clap skates ~ in 1997-98

adolescence hits
  childrearing can be difficult, especially when ~

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: verb

hit (hit $30, etc.)

hit the mid-20s
  during a hard freeze, temperatures ~ for 6-8 hours
hit the speed of sound
   at 22,200 feet, the airplane ~ (jetliner in dive)

hit (an estimated) 140 mph
   winds ~ in Tennessee (tornadoes)

hit $30
   the stock ~ before settling down to $23 (share price)

**attainment**: verb

**hit (affected)**

hit hard
   Bosnia's fragile economy was ~ by the financial crisis

**hitting, slamming & lashing**: fist

**hit (force)**

taken a hit
   tourism along the Gulf has ~ (oil spill)

**hitting, slamming & lashing**: fist

**hit (computer)**

hits on the (erotic) Web site
   5 million viewer ~

hits a day
   his Web site was getting nearly 2 million ~

viewer hits
   5 million ~ on the erotic Web site

8,000 hits
   the child-pornography site recorded ~ in 24 hours

5 million (viewer) hits
   ~ on the erotic Web site

**computer**: force

**hit (effect)**

hit (real) hard
   it ~ (a murder)

**feeling, emotion & effect**: force / fist / verb

**hit (comprehension)**

hit me
   and then it ~, Joe was sick

**comprehension & incomprehension**: force / fist / verb

**hit (success)**

hit
   a ~ is better than a flop (Broadway)

hit on (Top 40) radio
   she has a fast-rising ~

hit play
   his ~, "The Sunshine Boys"

hit song
   recorded a ~, toured England

hits and flops
   seeing ~ at the local movie theater;
   he has had a ~ (film actor)

monster hit
   the studio hasn't had a ~ since... (films)

TV hit
   it was a smash ~ from 1959 to 1963

Broadway hit
   he chalked up about a dozen ~s

fast-rising hit
   she has a ~ on Top 40 radio

**success & failure**: target / weapon

**hit (mob hit)**

hit job
   the Bloomberg article was a ~ (against a company)

political hit
   the hearings were a ~ (politics)

**conflict**: crime / death & life

**hit (hit it off)**

hit it off well
   we ~, I didn’t really know him or his work (film actor)

**attraction & repulsion**: crashes & collisions / verb

**hit back**: force

hit back
   prosecutors ~ in court documents (politics)

**resistance, opposition & defeat**: fist

**hitter (heavy hitter)**

two heavy-hitters
   you have a ~ meeting (Rapinoe on France vs. US soccer)

**conflict**: boxing / fist / sports & games

**hive (noun)**

hive
   if the outside was dark and lonesome, the inside was a ~

hive of activity
   the marketplace is a ~

**activity**: insect

**hives (noun)**

gives people (like Kennan) hives
   his opinions ~

**affliction**: health & medicine

**hobble (verb)**

hobbled past (Labour) governments
the matter of military intervention has ~
hobble the organization
the FBI were finally able to ~ (KKK)

constraint & lack of constraint: health & medicine / leg / verb
constraint & lack of constraint: animal / walking, running & jumping

hobbled

hobbled by (international) sanctions
Iran has been ~
hobbled by a (debilitating) stammer
he was ~ (George VI)
hobbled for a generation
the real-estate market is going to be ~

constraint & lack of constraint: animal / health & medicine
constraint & lack of constraint: leg / walking, running & jumping

Hobson's choice

presented him with a Hobson's choice
the crisis ~ (response to caving fatality)

♣ Thomas Hobson was an English liveryman who required every customer to take the horse nearest the door. It means an apparently free choice when there is really no alternative.

alternatives & choices: allusion

hag (verb)

hag photo spots
they ~ so no-one else can enjoy them (Instagram tourists)

behavior: animal / verb

hold (future)

holds
nobody knows what the future ~
getting people to prepare for what a warmer climate ~
hold
so what does the future ~ for the Supreme Court

future: container / verb

hold (long-held)

long-held assumptions
challenge ~ about…
long-held fears

long-held practice
it dropped its ~ of… (way a company orders goods)
long-held principles
long-held resentments
long-held tradition
abandoning such a ~ is heresy

possessive: hand

hold (verb / possession)

held him in its grip
the current ~

possessive: hand / verb

fictive possession: hand / verb

hold (noun / possession)

hold on power
he is trying to maintain his ~

losing their hold
residents are ~ on the middle class (recession)

possessive: hand

fictive possession: hand

hold (close hold, etc.)

close hold
it's ~, only a small number of people have read this (report)

concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling / sports & games / hand

hold (take hold)

take hold
the trend could ~ in other states (declaring bankruptcy)

taking hold
competitive instincts are ~ (classroom)

take hold in Spain
when liberal ideas began to ~

take hold in the community
we don't want extremist elements to ~

began to take hold
the idea ~

beginning to take hold
democracy is ~

failed to take hold
democracy has ~

growth & development: hand / verb

fictive possession: hand / verb

hold (hold something in)

hold it in
don't ~ (emotions)

feeling, emotion & effect: container / verb

hold (on hold)

on hold
negotiations are ~
his life in the sky has been ~ (crash with fatalities)

recovery efforts are on hold
~ because of dangerous conditions (avalanches)
put our relationship on hold
  we had to ~

**action, inaction & delay: hand**

**situation: hand**

**hold back (restraint)**

hold back
  Spike Lee did not ~ during the press conference

**restraint & lack of restraint: arm / verb**

**feeling, emotion & effect: arm / verb**

**hold back (obstacle)**

holding you back
  do you think I'm ~

hold her back
  the fact that she is shy needn't ~ (toddler)

**obstacles & impedance: arm / verb**

**constraint & lack of constraint: arm / verb**

**hold down (a job, etc.)**

hold down a job
  he couldn't ~ (ex-soldier back from Iraq)
  he could not ~ (drug addict)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: arm**

**hold on (possession)**

hold on to faith
  in the hell of war, how does a chaplain ~

holds on to grievances
  he ~

held on to its role
  the department has ~ as… (State Department)

held on to his people's ancient religion
  Nicholas Black Elk, who ~ when it was actively suppressed (Oglala)

**possession: hand / verb**

**hold on (survival)**

hold on
  controller said to ~ (soldiers waiting to be exfiltrated)
  the Maasai won't be able to ~ much longer
  ~ (911 operator to 9/11 caller)
  just ~, there will be tomorrow (Maria Carey)

held on to win
  AC Milan ~ the title… (soccer)

strength to hold on
  I ask God to give me ~ (mother of missing kid)

**survival, persistence & endurance: hand / verb**

**resiliency: hand / verb**

**holdup (noun)**

holdup

---

come on, what's the ~

**obstacles & impedance: hand**

**action, inaction & delay: hand**

**hole (feeling)**

hole in my heart
  it left a huge ~ (loss of a baby)

hole in my life
  it left a ~ that won't ever be filled (loss of her mother)

**feeling, emotion & effect: hole**

**hole (flaw)**

security hole
  the break-ins exploited ~ on these systems (computers)
  the ~s have now been plugged (computers)

gaping hole
  the case has ~ s in it

shoot holes in the study
  skeptics have been quick to ~ (science)

blew a (sizable) hole in the stock
  his report ~ of the high-flying, high-tech company

**flaws & lack of flaws: hole**

**hole (spider hole)**

spider hole
  the ~ s led to an underground chamber (Afghanistan)

spider hole emplacement
  he spotted an enemy ~ (Vietnam)

pop out of spider holes
  enemy fighters ~ (Afghanistan)

**concealment & lack of concealment: animal / ground, terrain & land / hole / insect / military / predation / spider**

**place: animal / insect / military / spider**

**hole (situation)**

hole of addiction
  it's easy to fall into a ~ (skateboarding)

financial hole
  he had to declare bankruptcy to get out of his ~

dug herself out of the hole
  she finally ~ (financial)

dug ourselves into a hole
  we have ~ (budget deficit)

climb out of their hole
  will they be able to ~ (losing team)

fill in that hole
  it will take a lot more jobs to ~ (unemployment)

♦ First law of holes: if you get in one, stop digging.

**situation: hole**
involvement: hole
holed up

holed up in his (Ramallah) compound
Arafat remained ~ for 2 years

holed up in a (hotel) room
he is ~ after being attacked (a reporter abroad)

holed up for 2 years
Arafat remained ~ in his Ramallah compound

remained holed up
Arafat has ~ in his Ramallah compound for 2 years

concealment & lack of concealment: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting

pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting
appearance & disappearance: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting
protection & lack of protection: animal / fox / ground, terrain & land / hunting

hollow (adjective)

proved hollow
the pledge ~ (UN)

rings hollow
his argument ~ to many

sounded hollow
his speech ~ (president)

hollow and self-serving
t heir platform is ~ (politics)

hollow, cynical and inauthentic
he is often dismissed as ~ (a politician)

substance & lack of substance: materials & substances

holocaust

nuclear holocaust
the spread of an ice sheet is more deadly to life than a ~

racial holocaust
Fidel Castro accused Paris of carrying out a "~"

♦ "The use of 'holocaust' by Mr. Castro demonstrates his ignorance of history and disdain towards its victims. Such words are unacceptable."
(French foreign ministry spokesman Bernard Valero, responding to comments by Fidel Castro that France's deportation of Roma in 2010 amounted to a 'racial holocaust.'"

destruction: allusion / history

home (home of golf, etc.)

home of golf
St. Andrews is the ~

origin: house

home (home in Islam, etc.)

home in Islam
people who found a ~
Homeric curse
he remembers the ~ of the truck drivers (Little Athens)

Homeric epic
her work is described as a ~ about…

Homeric life
he wanted to live a more ~ (Classics grad joins the army)

Homeric proportions
an armada of ~ invaded Sicily (World War II)

Homeric retreat
the climbing party's ~ down K2 is legendary

Homeric struggle
he lost a ~ (sculling)

stern, erect, Homeric
he stood over his foe, ~ (a fight)

superlative: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey
home run (success)

home run for Ford
the new car has become a ~

home-run line
it was a ~ (a memorable line in a speech)

hit a home run
you ~ (successful proposal)
this is an opportunity for us to ~ (an initiative)

success & failure: baseball / sports & games
home run (swing for a home run, etc.)

swinging for the fences
he is ~ (a restaurateur)

swinging for a home run
Trump is ~ (final status peace in Middle East)

success & failure: baseball / sports & games / verb
commitment & determination: baseball / sports & games / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: baseball / sports & game / verb

homestretch (noun)

homestretch of the (US mid-term) elections
race-baiting allegations have mired the ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games
development: sports & games

homework

homework
show that you have done your ~ by… (job interview)

do your homework
~ before you buy…
~ and don't make assumptions

do (all) your homework
you try to ~ (preparing for NCY marathon)

readiness & preparedness: school & education

hone (verb)
honed a sense
he has ~ of “radical informality” (a leader)
hone their skills
they ~ in Iraq and then go elsewhere (terrorists)
hone (job) skills
as more Americans return to school to ~
hone their technique
the hole is perfect for those wishing to ~ (kayaking)
develop and hone
they practice a lot to ~ their routines (cheerleaders)

amelioration & renewal: blade / knife / verb

honied
finely honed (m)
he demonstrates ~ political instincts (a diplomat)

functioning: blade / knife
condition & status: blade / knife

honey

honey
hey, ~…
honey, baby, sweetie
he addresses me as ~ and other inappropriate names

vocative: taste

honeymoon

honeymoon
the ~ didn't last (teacher on job)
honeymoon between the media and police
to the end of the ~ (leak)
honeymoon period
his ~ is clearly over (an elected official)
voter honeymoon
he still basks in a ~ (a politician)

end to the honeymoon
the ~ between the news media and police (leak)

conflict: love, courtship & marriage

honey-tongued

honey-tongued (m)
the ~ French major

speech: taste / tongue

hood (look under the hood, etc.)

looked under the hood
he ~ of the Chrome web browser (privacy investigator)

digging under the hood
they are ~ (investigators / how company operates)
look under the hood to understand
Google doesn’t ~ who these companies are (trackers)
searching & discovery: engine
analysis, interpretation & explanation: engine
hook (off the hook)
off the hook for now
he might be ~, but… (criminal investigation)
let him off the hook
don’t ~ (prosecutor to jury)
let them off the hook
she likes them, but she doesn’t ~
pursuit, capture & escape: fish / justice
punishment & recrimination: fish / justice
hook (hook, line and sinker)
swallowed his story hook, line and sinker
I ~
extent & scope: fish
consumption: fish
hooked (enthusiasm)
hooked
I started with a free trial and then I was ~ (brand)
hooked on (American) TV
he got ~ (diplomat's son)
completely hooked
I got ~ on viruses (a scientist)
get hooked
when you're a young musician you ~ on a phrase
got hooked
he ~ on the game (Cow Clicker)
♦ "I love maps, and when you get hooked, you get hooked." (W. Graham Arader III, a preeminent map dealer of old American maps.)
enthusiasm: addiction / fish
hook up (connect)
hooked up with Lashkar-e-Taiba
through friends in Durham, he ~ (group)
division & connection: tools & technology / verb
hook up (relationship)
hook up with her
I might ~ sometime later down the road
hooked up with her ex-boyfriend
rumors that she might have ~
hooked up with a friend
he ~ who... (camping)
hook up online
as more people ~ (long-distance relationships)
social interaction: tools & technology
hookup (sex)
hookup
~s are happening while on the job (sex)
with a ~, it's about instant gratification (young woman)
hookup in Japan
a ~ is called a take-out (sex)
homosexual hook-ups
the Minneapolis airport is known as a site for ~
site for (homosexual) hookups
the Minneapolis airport is known as a ~
sex: tools & technology
hook (jump through hoops)
jump through hoops
eye make you ~ to get a good rate (banks)
jump through (superhuman) hoops
you have to ~ to become “one of the good ones” (immigrants)
difficulty, easiness & effort: tools & technology / verb
obstacles & impedance: sports & games / verb
hoover (hoover up, etc.)
hoovering up talent
big clubs have been ~
absorption & immersion: mechanism / verb
hop (verb)
hopping
the stockyards were ~ during the war (Chicago)
the city of Memphis is ~ this month (civic festivals)
activity: movement / verb
horizon (on the horizon)
on the horizon
there’s no miracle cure ~
a solution is not yet ~ (nuclear waste)
with the threat of a war ~ (with Iran)
a wedding is ~, she says… (celebrity)
American sanctions are ~ (diplomacy)
what’s next ~ for you (question to a celebrity)
on the immediate horizon
children are not ~ (an actor)
see the collapse on the horizon
we can ~
see anything on the horizon
I don’t ~ (a change in the law in the future)
future: eye / horizon / sky
horizon (expand one's horizons)

expand his horizons
he wanted to ~ (oilman working in Nigeria)

experience: horizon / sky

horizon (extent and scope)

widening (strategic) horizons
the naval deploy is a clear sign of Iran’s ~ (the Med)

extent & scope: horizon / sky

horn (shape)

Horn of Africa
over 90 million people inhabit the ~

Cape Horn
the ~ is at the southern end of South America

shape: animal / horn

horn (Horn of Africa, etc.)

Horn of Africa
over 90 million people inhabit the ~

Cape Horn
the ~ is at the southern end of South America

bedrock of the Horn
Eritrea and Ethiopia are the ~

Horn moves
Eritrea and Ethiopia are the pole around which the ~

proper name: animal / horn

horn (lock horns)

lock horns
former champion ~, they are to go head to head (Scrabble)

lock horns with (the inexperienced) Zelensky
Poroshenko would love to ~ (a debate)

locked horns in the debate
the three leaders ~

lock horns in (television) debate
assembly candidates ~

lock horns over spy charges
China and US ~

lock horns over whether
Betty and Mark ~ Bono should... (TV)

locked horns on the economy
Labour and Conservative politicians ~ during a BBC Wales debate

lock horns with him over whether
they will ~ LSD allows access to a deeper reality (discussion)

Oxford and Cambridge lock horns

live coverage as ~ (Boat Race)

conflict: animal / horn / verb

hornet’s nest

hornet’s nest of (antiaircraft) fire
the Apache helicopters ran into a ~ (Iraq)

hornet’s nest of (surface-to-surface) missile
Baghdad's air defenses were a ~

hornet’s nest of (local) politics
he stepped into a ~ and got stung (President)

poke a stick in the hornet’s nest
what we did was to ~ (investigation)

stumbled into a hornet’s nest
she ~ (criticised transgender athletes)

activity: animal / insect

environment: animal / insect

conflict: animal / insect
danger: animal / insect

horse (hold your horses)

hold your horses
~, we got it right here… (a good boxing show)

eagerness & reluctance: horse / verb
c control & lack of control: animal / horse / verb

horse (switch horses)

switched horses
progressive school reformers have ~ (tactics)

allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / horse / verb

horse-trading

horse-trading
this ~ is disgraceful (politics)

position, policy & negotiation: horse / money

host (host of questions, etc.)

host of questions
Democrats have a whole ~

amount: military

hostage (held hostage)

held hostage to the unions
the city is ~ (transportation unions)

held hostage to (political) posturing reform has been ~

held hostage by the (culinary) canon
he is not ~ (a chef)

held hostage by (union) demands
public education is ~

held hostage by elites
democracy is ~ (Africa)

held hostage by politicians
we’re being ~ who don’t know how we survive

held hostage by (politically powerful) interest groups
their budgets are ~ (universities)

**constraint & lack of constraint:** crime / verb

**hostage (other)**

hostage to (larger) forces
architecture is always ~ (high-rise success or failure)

holding us hostage
the weather is ~ (emergency response)

take yourself hostage
don’t ~ to your own fears (reaction to terrorism)

**constraint & lack of constraint:** crime

**hostage (other)**

hostage to (larger) forces
architecture is always ~ (high-rise success or failure)

holding us hostage
the weather is ~ (emergency response)

take yourself hostage
don’t ~ to your own fears (reaction to terrorism)

**constraint & lack of constraint:** crime

**hot (controversial)**

hot
the issue has gotten so ~ that...

**feeling, emotion & effect:** temperature

**hot (activity)**

hottest (real estate) markets
during the housing boom, Florida was the ~ in the world

**activity:** temperature

**hotbed**

hotbed of racism
stereotypes of Mississippi as a ~ (civil-rights activists)

hotbed of revolt
the region has been a ~

hotbed of extremism
a reputation as a ~ (a Saudi university)

hotbed for al Qaeda activity
Yemen is a ~

hotbed of volcanic activity
Iceland is a ~

cyclo-cross hotbed
New England is a ~ (bicycling)

reputation as a hotbed
it has a ~ of extremism (a Saudi university)

♦ A hotbed is a garden enclosed by glass and fertilized with manure. In such an environment plants grow rapidly.

**growth & development:** farming & agriculture / plant

**hot dog (person)**

hot dog
he’s a ~

**character & personality:** dog / person / temperature

**hothead (person)**

hothead
he’s a ~

message for the hotheads
here’s a ~ in the community (stand-your-ground killing)

**character & personality:** head / person / temperature

**behavior:** head / person / temperature

**feeling, emotion & effect:** head / person / temperature

**control & lack of control:** head / person / temperature

**person:** head / temperature

**hotheaded (adjective)**

hotheaded (political) aspirant
he’s a ~

hotheaded ways
he was known for his ~

**character & personality:** head / temperature

**behavior:** head / temperature

**feeling, emotion & effect:** head / temperature

**control & lack of control:** head / temperature

**hotly**

hotly anticipated (m)
boxing fans look forward to the ~ rematch

hotly debated
this question has been ~ for decades

hotly contested (m)
BASE jumping is a ~ issue (Yosemite Valley)

hotly disputed (m)
nuclear reactor safety is a ~ issue

**feeling, emotion & effect:** temperature

**hotshot (noun)**

hotshot
he’s a ~

hot-shot (account) executive
a ~

**behavior:** hunting / person / weapon

**character & personality:** hunting / person / weapon

**hotspot (place)**

hotspot for celebrities
L.A.’s newest ~

L.A.’s (newest) hotspot ~ for celebrities

Hollywood hotspot
she stays clear of ~

disease hotspot
the Lyme ~ was a goldmine of research

surfing hotspot
they have turned Yakutat, Alaska into a skateboarding hot spot
the Tampa Bay area is a global hotspot
the Congo basin is a newest hotspot L.A.’s for celebrities
turned Yakutat into a (surfing) hotspot they have ~ (Alaska)

activity: temperature
location / place: temperature

hot water (in hot water)
in hot water with my dad
I’m ~
in hot water with that woman
I’m already ~ (an authority figure)
in hot water for the crime
he now finds himself ~
finds himself in hot water
he now ~
gotten in hot water
he has ~ lately for his tweets (auto executive)
situation: heating water / temperature / water

hot water (into hot water)
get me into hot water
my pride and stubbornness ~ once in a while

situation: heating water / temperature / water

hound (autograph hound, etc.)
autograph hound
an ~
publicity hound
a pack of bizarre ~s (public meetings)
pack of (bizarre publicity) hounds
a ~ (public meetings)
enthusiasm: animal / dog / person
hounded (dogged)
hounded by investigators and the media
he has been ~

affliction: animal / dog

hour (finest hour)
finest hour in England
this was his ~ (soccer player scores important goal)
superlative: hour

hour (timeliness)

hour
the ~ is getting late
eyearly hours
I know it’s ~ but...
eleventh hour
why did she wait until the ~ to reveal this
it’s disingenuous to wait until the ~ (politics)
golden hour
a clock starts ticking on what is called the ~
the “~”, when life can hang in the balance
"Golden Hour” of injury
if treatment is available within the first ~
timeliness & lack of timeliness: hour

hourglass (shape)

hourglass figure
the ~ shape
shape: clock / tools & technology

hourglass (time)

hourglass
the sand is running through the ~ (approaching deadline)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock

house (a house in order)
fiscal house
we must get our ~ in order
put your house in order
get its house in order
the church must ~ (pedophile priests)

amelioration & renewal: house

house (clean house)
cleaning house
she is ~ and stopping the cycles of harassment and discrimination
mandate to clean house
the new police chief has a clear public ~
on a mission to clean house
I don’t want to end up in the crosshairs of somebody who’s ~

need to clean house
we ~

♦ Michele Rhee was an educational crusader. As chancellor of the Washington, D.C. school system, she was given a mandate to “clean house.” She appeared on the cover of Time Magazine with a broom. But community members felt like they had been compared to dirt, and she ended up having to resign her position.

amelioration & renewal: house / hygiene / verb
disruption: house / hygiene / verb
**house (origin)**

royal house

his descent from a ~, the Ranas (India)

*origin: house / royalty*

**house of cards**

house of cards

her ~ was about to collapse (Holmes of Theranos)

Enron’s house of cards

~ began to disintegrate (bankrupt company)

*substance & lack of substance: cards / house*

**hover (numbers)**

hovers at (around) 70%

unemployment ~ in winter (reservation)

temperatures hovered

in July 1995, when ~ around 100 degrees (Chicago)

*configuration: flying & falling / verb*

**hover (other)**

hover

the batterer may ~ and refuse to leave the patient (ED)

hovers

the fear that he might recognize me still ~

hovered behind her

her manager ~ protectively

*coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: flying & falling / verb*

**howl (verb)**

howl

why didn't liberals ~ when…

howling about the (new pricing) policy

people are ~ (airline fees)

howling in protest

people are ~

*resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / sound / verb*

*speech: animal / sound / verb*

*sound: animal / verb*

**hub (center)**

hub of (contemporary Middle East) painting

Damascus has evolved into a ~

hub airport

he is the security chief at a major ~

narcotics hub

Guinea-Bissau has become a global ~ (cocaine)

transit hub

the UAE is a business and tourist center as well as a ~

**publishing hub**

lower Manhattan is re-emerging as a ~

**shopping hub**

the Fulton Street Mall is an eclectic ~

**commercial hub**

protestors occupied the ~ of Bangkok (2010)

**financial hub**

Warsaw has become a ~

*center & periphery: mechanism*

*location / place / shape: mechanism*

**hub (branching system)**

hub-and-spoke (m)

the ~ model is out of favor (airlines)

**smuggling hub**

Atlanta is a major ~ (US)

*branching system: mechanism*

**hug (configuration)**

hugs the cliff

the trail ~, 70 feet above the sea, and is very dangerous

hug the (Mediterranean) coast

beaches that ~ (Egypt)

hugs a mountainside

the Poomau Ditch Trail ~ (Kauai, Hawaii / hiking)

*configuration: arm / verb*

**hum (hum along)**

humming along

the team just keeps ~

the economy has been ~

*functioning: mechanism / sound / verb*

*activity: mechanism / sound / verb*

**hum (noun)**

hum

the ~ is incessant (emergency room / NYC)

*activity: mechanism / sound*

**hump (noun)**

get over that hump

we need to ~ (a sports team)

*obstacles and impedance: direction / shape*

**hung (hung out to dry)**

hung out to dry

he feels like he’s been ~

*allegiance, support & betrayal: clothing & accessories / verb*
hunger

hunger to escape
  an aching ~ the loneliness and boredom (teen)
hunger to succeed
  he has a ~ (an foreign athlete in US)
hunger for (snake) meat
  the ~ is a country-wide phenomenon (China)
hunger for opportunity
  they have a ~ ($amoa in NFL)
hunger for the profits
  the ~ from arctic oil (Canada)
hunger for revenge
  ways people can peaceably satiate their ~
hunger for a better life
  a gnawing ~ (Ellis Island)
hunger and desire
  the ~ which has driven them (Manchester Win treble)
aching hunger
  an ~ to escape the loneliness and boredom (teen)

hunger for opportunity
  the ~ is a country-wide phenomenon (China)
hunger for revenge
  ways people can peaceably satiate their ~
hunger for a better life
  a gnawing ~ (Ellis Island)
hunger and desire
  the ~ which has driven them (Manchester Win treble)
aching hunger
  an ~ to escape the loneliness and boredom (teen)

hungry

hungry
  I was ~, ready... (Bruno in ring waiting for Tyson)
hungry for sex
  they are ~ (ad for porn site on Web)
  women were assumed to be just as ~ as men (1700s)
hungry for new talent
  Hollywood is constantly ~
hungry for attention or sympathy
  parents ~ abuse their kids
hungry-eyed (m)
  he would stay there, ~

celebrity-hungry (m)
  a ~ electorate
content-hungry (m)
  programming for ~ cable networks

Internet-hungry (m)
  ~ investors
power-hungry (m)
  ~ self-seeker (a politician)
stay hungry
  ~, stay foolish (Steve Jobs / Apple Computer)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink
consumption: food & drink

eagerness & reluctance: food & drink

hunt (in the hunt)
in the hunt for the championship
  they could be ~ (sports team)
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

hunt (verb)
hunted for his sock
  he ~
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb

hunt (noun)
hunt for a Northwest Passage
  Sir John Franklin's doomed 1845 ~
hunt for the hackers
  investigators continue the ~ behind the virus
hunt for the sniper
  a setback in their frustrating ~ (D.C. area)
talent hunt
  the ~ (to fuel the new economy)
title hunt
  eliminated early from the ~ (NASCAR)
treasure hunt
  most ~s are scams
Easter Egg Hunt
  ~ on Sunday (sign)
frustrating hunt
  a setback in their ~ for the sniper (D.C. area)
setback in their (frustrating) hunt
  a ~ for the sniper (D.C. area)
continue the hunt
  investigators ~ for the hackers behind the virus
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

hunt down (verb)
hunted down his critics
  he ~ (Turkish President)
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb

hunter (plants)
hunters for ginseng
  the first Chinese who appeared in the region were ~
ginseng hunter
  a ~
mushroom hunter
  thousands of species are collected by amateur ~s
  ~s all have their secret places (France);
  ~s are wise to stay away from the Amanita species
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

**hunter (other)**

bargain hunter
   the souk is a ~’s delight (Sharjah City)

job hunter
   ~s are searching globally

house hunter
   some of these ~s were asked…

relic hunter
   ~s have dug and taken artifacts (Civil War battlefield)

souvenir hunter
   ~s elbowing each other aside

treasure hunter
   ship’s loot unearthed by ~s
   historical researchers and ~s

pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

**hurdle (noun)**

hurdle
   it was a difficult ~ to overcome

procedural hurdles
   put ~ in the way of…

technological hurdle
   there are a lot of ~s (medicine)

hurdles remain
   ~ in restarting power at the plant

running into some hurdles
   marine-energy developers are ~

clear the (first major) hurdle
   they are sounding hopeful that they will ~
cleared the first hurdle
   she has ~ of her bid to serve again as speaker (vote)
cleared all of the hurdles
   they had ~ (opposition candidates)

obstacles & impedance: sports & games / walking, running & jumping

**hurl (verb)**

hurling accusations (of racism) at anyone
   he has been ~ who dares criticize him (politician)
hurling (rare) charges
   Egyptian media were ~ of negligence (against military)

throwing, putting & planting: arm / verb

**hurt (feeling and emotion)**

hurt my feelings
   she ~

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb

**hurting**

hurting
   small businesses are clearly ~ (economy)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**husband (verb)**

husbanded that character
   he ~ for five years (killed off in TV show)

**directing: animal / verb**

**husk (noun)**

husk of its former self
   the company is a ~ (General Electric)

**substance & lack of substance: plant**

**hymn (noun)**

hymn to the beauty
   the film is a ~ of endless prairies (Lakota Indian country)

hymn to the wild at heart
   the play is a ~

reverence: religion

**hymnal (noun)**

2016 hymnal
   his platform is chapter and verse from the ~ (Bernie)

script: religion

**hyperdrive (into hyperdrive)**

went into hyperdrive
   the aggressive South Korean media ~

activity: mechanism

**hypnotize (verb)**

hypnotized the world
   Israel has ~ (according to Ilhan Omar)

control & lack of control: magic

**ice (on thin ice)**

on thin ice
   you’re ~, buddy… (warning)
   she had been ~ for more than a year (fired)
   he was on ~ because… (Secretary of Labor resigns)

skating on thin ice
   I was ~ with my cholesterol (heart attack)

fate, fortune & chance: snow & ice
ice (put on ice)
put on ice
he was ~ (a news executive)

constraint & lack of constraint: snow & ice / temperature
ice (break the ice)
break the ice
he uses humor to ~
ome once you ~, you got a new friend
break the ice with audiences
she used humor to ~
break the ice with someone
dancing is a way to ~
break the ice by getting
the game is meant to ~ party guests out of their shoes (Twister)
helps break the ice
her friendly, confident demeanor ~ (female soldier)

♦ "You need a way to actually break the grass and start a conversation."
(The wonderful Halida Hodbane, first female Moroccan mountain guide, who leads groups of foreign women that meet Moroccan women, who are historically famous for their shyness. It is possible there is more grass than ice in Morocco, even in the Atlas Mountains.)

division & connection: snow & ice / temperature / verb
tip of the iceberg
reported incidents may be only the ~ (child abuse)
all we know so far is the ~ (investigation);
the disclosures so far are merely the ~ (pedophiles)
this is just the ~
tip of the iceberg of potential
we're just at the ~ (wasps trained to detect things)
tip of the iceberg of (secret) warfare
the affair is just the ~ the US is waging in Pakistan
tip of the pollination iceberg
bees are just the ~
tip of the fiscal iceberg
Wisconsin is just the ~ (states facing deficits)
merely the tip of the iceberg
the disclosures so far are ~ (pedophiles in education)
only the tip of the iceberg
reported incidents may be ~ (child abuse)
just the tip of the iceberg
this is ~

appearance & reality: snow & ice
substance & lack of substance: snow & ice

ice-cold
ice-cold revenge
he dished out ~ on his enemies
grew ice-cold
their relationship ~

feeling, emotion & effect: snow & ice / temperature
icon (graphic)
icons on your camera
strange ~
strange icon
~s on your camera

sign, signal, symbol: religion
icon (symbol)
icon
the cup of tea is a great ~ (for England)
icons of America
3 ~ are alive and well (buffalo / eagle / Native Americans)
icons of democracy
~ are targets for terrorists (Washington, D.C.)
icon of fall
the plump, round, orange ~ (pumpkin)
icon of broadcast news
Ted Koppel is an ~
icon of American mobility
Greyhound has long been an ~ (bus company)
icon of a failed state
anarchy has made Somalia an ~
icon of (American) popular culture
the Barbie doll has become an ~
icont to black journalists
he was an ~ (Ed Bradley / 60 Minutes)
icone status
Ali had achieved ~ by then (the boxer)

Australian icon
a virtually sacred ~, the Surf Life Saver

Australia's (national) icon
~ (the Koala)

cartoon icons
~ like Bugs Bunny, Elmer Fudd, the Roadrunner
film icon
large portraits of silent-movie ~s
pop icon
America's biggest ~ (Michael Jackson)
hip-hop icon
Lee Iacocca did commercials with ~ Snoop Dogg
American icon
quotes from this ~ (Mark Twain)
the teenage rebel, the quintessential ~ (adolescence)
cultural icon
taco trucks, ~s and social magnets in Mexico (and US)
gay icon
Madonna is widely considered to be a ~
heroic icon
Nimitz was a ~ of W.W. II
international icon
McDonald's is an ~
mainstream icons
Net culture prides itself on scoffing at ~
national icon
Australia's ~ (the Koala)
sacred (Australian) icon
a virtually ~, the Surf Life Saver
career as an advertising icon
a reborn ~ (Hakman)
quotes from this (American) icon
~ (Mark Twain)
become an icon
the Barbie doll has ~ of American popular culture
representation: religion
sign, signal, symbol: religion
**iconic**
iconic doll
Raggedy Ann, the 86-year-old ~
iconic figure
he was an ~, an old-school reporter
iconic image
~s of the Holocaust
it has become an ~ of his lack of connection (Bush)
iconic look
it just happened to become an ~ (Addicted to Love video)
iconic (Trestles) surf break
the road project could ruin the ~
representation: religion
sign, signal, symbol: religion
**iconoclastic (noun)**
nurtured her iconoclasm
her parents encouraged her ambitions and ~ (musician)
idea: religion
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
**iconoclast (person)**
he was an ~, willing to buck the tide (Bernard Rimland)
iconoclast of (American architecture
he was an ~
iconoclast of the group
he was the ~
advancing iconoclast
the ~ Ted Chin spoke at the conference
political iconoclast
he has a history of being a ~ (eccentric governor)

**iconoclastic (adjective)**
irreverent, anti-authoritarian and iconoclastic
~ (Mad magazine)

**idea: religion**
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: person / religion
person: religion

**identity crisis**
Azerbaijan's (current) identity crisis
Belgian identity crisis
the ~ hit new heights (rumor Flanders succeeded)
identity & nature: mental illness

**idolized**
idolized and demonized
he has been alternately ~ by the press (a boxer)

**importance & significance: religion**
reverence: religion

**ignite (verb)**
ignite a (larger) conflagration
Somalia could ~ across the Horn of Africa
ignited a (robust) debate
the conflict in Lebanon has ~ on jihadist Web sites
ignited fear
the attack ~ among its Muslim worshippers
ignite a revolution
he tried to ~ in New York City's schools (education)
ignite another war
the clash showed how a small spark could ~
ignites competition and conflict
the need for recognition and power ~ (schools)
ignited and fueled
opposition was ~ by the church (innovation)

Initiation: fire / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb
illegitimate (adjective)
denounce federal authority as illegitimate
they ~ (militias)
worth & lack of worth: family
illiterate (adjective)
iliterate in math and science
many students are ~
financially illiterate
leaders and their economic advisors are ~
rhetorically illiterate
she is ~
scientifically illiterate
many students leave school ~
financially and economically illiterate
many Americans are ~ and pay the price
ability & lack of ability: books & reading
illuminate (verb)
iluminates
research info that sometimes mystifies as much as it ~
iluminated the lives
for 14 centuries the Holy Qur'an has ~ of Muslims
illuminate their motives
a biographical detail that may ~ but…
analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark / verb
comprehension & lack of comprehension: light & dark / verb
illuminating (adjective)
iluminating insight
the new study provides an ~ into what's going on
illuminating window
the case is an ~ into the pitfalls of capital punishment
analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark
comprehension & lack of comprehension: light & dark
feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark
illustration
illustration of (tobacco's) consequences
a vivid ~
illustration of the gap
this is yet another ~ between the king and…
classic illustration
Sarajevo was a ~ of how an agreement can be reached
vivid illustration
~s of tobacco's consequences
evidence: picture
imbibe (verb)
imbibe culture
there are new places to ~ (Harlem)
imbibe new ideas
they ~ from the locals
imbibed his love
I read about Thaddeus Kosciusko and ~ of liberty
imbibe the author's views
they will read this story and gradually ~
absorption & immersion: food & drink / verb
consumption: food & drink / verb
immerse (verb)
immersed himself in books
he ~ about the financial collapse
immerse yourself in Indian culture
~ at the Fairmont, Jaipur, a five-star hotel
immersed herself in each project
she ~
immersed himself in his work
for more than a decade, he ~
immersed myself in the (Eisenhower) papers
I ~ (researcher)
immerse yourself in the culture
you try to ~ (anthropology)
absorption & immersion: verb / water
involvement: verb / water
immersed
immersed in Chinese
the kids spend every other day ~ (charter school)
absorption & immersion: water
involvement: water
immersion
immersion in English
only ~ has proved successful (vs. bilingual ed)
immersion in the (stenographic) record
his ~ of… (a historian)
English immersion
the most effective instruction is ~
Virginia, has chosen ~ (vs. bilingual ed)
~ is more effective than bilingual education
absorption & immersion: water
involvement: water
immune
immune to cold
the natives seemed ~
immune to it
  I've had to deal with so much, I'm ~

immune from terrorism
  no country is ~ in today's world

remained (largely) immune
  until this week the capital ~ to the violence (Syria)

protection & lack of protection: health & medicine

immunity
  immunity from prosecution
    she requested ~

diplomatic immunity
  Mr. Qaddafi was not arrested because he has ~

psychological immunity
  experience of painful feelings can help kids develop ~

  granted immunity
    he was ~ from prosecution in exchange for…

protection & lack of protection: health & medicine

impact (effect)
  economic impact
    the ~ of these latest tariffs

  high-impact
    it's considered a ~ journal
      what weather forecasters are calling a ~ event (storms)

  effect: force

impasse (noun)
  moral impasse
    psychiatry is stuck in a kind of ~

  obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips / movement
    progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement

implode (verb)
  implode violently
    the repressive regime might now ~ or lash out

destruction: explosion / verb

impotence (weakness)
  political impotence
    corporate greed, entertainment addiction and ~ (the US)

functioning: health & medicine

strength & weakness: health & medicine
  force: health & medicine
  attenuation: health & medicine

impotent (adjective)
  impotent to stop
    our leaders were ~ the series of crises

functioning: health & medicine

strength & weakness: health & medicine
  force: health & medicine
  attenuation: health & medicine

imprimatur
  given its imprimatur
    the UN has ~ to the policy

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

imprint
  imprint on the Japanese
    deflation has left a deep ~

  imprint of his (chief) speechwriter
    the words bore the strong ~ (presidential speech)

impression: mark

in (currency)
  in this year
    long skirts are ~

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction

in (all in)
  all in
    republican candidates are not ~ with President Trump
      he has gone ~ with the players (a football coach)

all-in moment
  her ~ comes in 1989 (magazine editor)

allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle
  commitment & determination: prep, adv, adj, particle

in (in deep, etc.)
  in it
    everybody in town knew who was ~ (civil-rights murder)

  in deep with a gang
    she is ~

involvement: container / prep, adv, adj, particle

incendiary (speech)
  incendiary comment
    that's an ~

  incendiary invective
    politics is filled with ~

incendiary post
  what triggered the uproar was an ~ at a Website

incendiary (political) rhetoric
  the shootings caused a backlash against ~

incendiary call to arms
  she made an ~ for people to resist Washington

speech: fire / temperature
  feeling, emotion & effect: fire / temperature
initiation: fire / temperature

incendiary (other)

incendiary
the situation in the south is ~ (rebellion)

incendiary issue
race can be an ~ in American politics

politically incendiary (m)
the organization has made some ~ missteps

initiation: fire / temperature

incestuous (adjective)

incestuous
academia is ~ (peer review, smallness, etc.)

incestuous alliance
the union is an ~ between public officials and labor

incestuous relationship
the scandal revealed an ~ of lobbyists and politicians
the web of ~s is troubling (stock analysts, the media)

super-incestuous (m)
the Beltway is a ~ zone (Washington politics)

ingrown, incestuous (m)
she represented a very ~ culture in that institution

relationship: family

incubator

incubators of despair
the refugee camps have become ~

incubator of espionage
the campus is an ~ (free flow of ideas)

incubator of innovation
the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency is an ~

incubator for (left-wing) talent
his show was an ~ on the air (TV)

incubator for France’s top talent
the elite Ecole Nationale d’Administration (ENA) is an ~

incubator for terrorists
the religious school is an ~ (Indonesia)

meme incubator
it’s a ~ (TikTok)

talent incubator
the art gallery has emerged as a top ~ (Damascus)

technology incubator
the zone is one of three ~s in the state (New Jersey)

environment: bird
growth & development: bird

incurable

incurable optimist

I used to be an ~, but... (an Iraqi)

character & personality: health & medicine

identity & nature: health & medicine

inebriate (verb)

inebriated both parties
his political fantasy has ~ (that victory is total)

restraint & lack of restraint: alcohol / verb
behavior: alcohol / verb

inertia (noun)

years of inertia
environmentalists blame the government for ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement
progress & lack of progress: movement
action, inaction & delay: movement

infancy (in infancy)

in its infancy
the field is ~
ecosystem forecasting is ~
in late 1862 photography was ~ (Mathew Brady)
scientists point out the research is ~ (medicine)

growth & development: baby

infancy (other)

stock car racing’s ~
those hellish days of ~

growth & development: baby

infant (noun)

infant market
nurture the ~ (e-publishing)

infatuated (enthusiasm)

infatuated with social networking
young adults are ~

enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage

infect (computers)

infected (industrial) computers
the Stuxnet worm ~ in Iran

computer: health & medicine / verb

infect (corrupt)

infected every corner
criminality has ~ of the government

infected our culture
narcissism and exhibitionism have ~

infect the knowledge
a misconception can ~ associated with it
infected the (educational) system
the disease of grade inflation has ~

infecting the (entire) system
he is a symptom of a much wider pathology ~ (politics)

corruption: health & medicine / verb
infected
infected with (a succeed-at-all-costs) recklessness
cycling is ~ (doping)
infected by a (false) doctrine
I became ~ (religion)
infected computers
the data came from 729 ~ (botnets)
corruption: health & medicine
infection (enthusiasm)
infection of his thinking
the ~ has mutated, gone pandemic (quantum computing)
enthusiasm: health & medicine
infection (corruption)
one single infection
amid that epidemic, ~ was fateful (NotPetya worm)
infection spreads
amputate before ~ (bad players, coach at Manchester United)
affliction / corruption: health & medicine
infectious
infectious
his zest for life was ~ (Ernest Hemingway)
infectious smile
we will miss his ~ and love for football (murdered player)
transmission: health & medicine
infest (verb)
infest both sides
bandits ~ of the border
affliction: insect / verb
infested
bomb-infested (m)
the marines are trying to control a ~ stretch of road (Iraq)
crime-infested (m)
the ~ streets of Baltimore
drug-infested (m)
people who live in ~ neighborhoods
gang-infested (m)
the ~ neighborhood is riddled with lookouts
mafia-infested (m)
a ~ industry...
mine-infested (m)
steaming through ~ waters
pirate-infested
Indonesia's waters remained the world's most ~
pirate-infested (m)
the ~ waters off Sumatra (Malacca Strait, etc.)
drug- and guerrilla-infested (m)
in the ~ jungle
♦ "Feed a Pigeon, Breed a Rat." (Slogan in a NYC public-education campaign to reduce food for rats.)
affliction: insect
infidelity (noun)
financial infidelity
~ is on the rise
~ is when people hide their accounts or debts from their spouses
behavior / subterfuge: love, courtship & marriage
allegiance, support & betrayal: love, courtship & marriage
concealment & lack of concealment: love, courtship & marriage
inflame (verb)
inflamed the (national immigration) debate
his arrest ~ (a murderer)
inflame (voters') fears
the surest way to win elections is to ~
inflame people’s passions
this will ~ (politics)
inflame the situation
the photos could ~ (of dead civilians)
inflame them
good therapists usually work to resolve conflicts, not ~
Increase & decrease: fire / verb
Initiation: fire / verb
inflammatory (adjective)
inflammatory comment
this is a baseless, ~ (diplomacy)
inflammatory quotes
the army report didn't say who was responsible for the ~
inflammatory language
let’s have a conversation without ~ (anti-Semitism)
shocking and inflammatory (m)
desecration of the Koran is a ~ act
Increase & decrease: fire
Initiation: fire
speech: fire
inflate (verb)

inflate our grades
we are pushed to ~ (teachers)

inflated the pay
these schemes were designed to ~ of the C.E.O.

inflates the (Latino dropout) rate
which ~... (education)

increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon / verb

inflated

inflated (growth) expectations

inflated prices
items trickle in at ~ (Kisangani)

inflated (stock) prices
 sharply inflated (m)
~ wages

vastly inflated
the figures are ~

figures are (vastly) inflated
that the ~ is an open secret (refugees)

increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / balloon

inflexible (character)

stubborn or inflexible
she has a lot of resolve, but sometimes can be ~

cost & personality: materials & substances

ability & lack of ability: materials & substances

infrastructure (noun)

intellectual infrastructure
education initiatives aim at building the ~
the country's ~ is still eroding (research, funding, etc.)

bases: infrastructure

infusion (noun)

infusion of (new) jobs
the recovery will suffocate without a rapid ~

throwing, putting & planting: water
directing: water

inhal (verb)

inhaled this stuff
I ~ and couldn’t get enough of it (comedy)

absorption & immersion: breathing / verb
consumption: breathing / verb

inheritance (noun)

railroading inheritance
our national ~

economic inheritance
the government faces a terrible ~ (Britain's new coalition)

national (railroading) inheritance
our ~

throwing, putting & planting: health & medicine / verb
directing: health & medicine / verb

injection (noun)

injection of aid
only a massive ~ can help

throwing, putting & planting: health & medicine
directing: health & medicine

injury

added insult to injury
he ~ by...

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine

inner circle (noun)

inner circle
you're in the ~, or you're in exile (politics)

White House inner circle
she has left the ~ (resigned)

inroads into Trump’s inner circle
the Emiratis helped the Russians make their own ~

group, set & collection / power / society: center & periphery

inning (in the first inning)

in the first inning of the game
we are still ~

development: baseball / sports & games
timeliness & lack of timeliness: baseball / sports & games

inning (ninth inning)

bottom of the ninth inning
we are reaching the ~ (an election)

development: baseball / sports & games
timeliness & lack of timeliness: baseball / sports & games
inoculate (verb)
inoculate themselves from the national mood
politicians are trying to ~ (elections)
inoculate us from these vanities
Vietnam did not ~ (US 'exceptionalism')
inoculate it against (possible legal) consequences
they came up with a framework to ~ (a company)
inoculated the US against foreign wars
the Vietnam War temporarily ~
protection & lack of protection: health & medicine / verb
inoculated
inoculated against (empty) promises
the public was long ago ~ (from the government)
protection & lack of protection: health & medicine
inoculation
inoculation
but the ~ lasted less than a decade (Vietnam to Grenada)
stress inoculation
making a soldier stronger and better through ~
protection & lack of protection: health & medicine
inquisition (noun)
Spanish Inquisition
I didn't expect the ~ (questioning)
oppression: allusion / history / violence
judgment: allusion / history / violence
inroads (make inroads)
make their own inroads into Trump's inner circle
the Emiratis helped the Russians ~
protection & lack of protection: horse
insatiable (adjective)
is satiable
the appetite for pornography seems to be ~
the appetite of the European rich for porcelain was ~
is satiable appetite
India's seemingly ~ for gold (jewelry, dowries, temples)
consumption: food & drink
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food & drink
insider (person)
entrenched insiders
he is a Washington outsider facing down ~
society: center & periphery / person
power: center & periphery / person
instrument
instrument of terror
a burning cross is a particularly powerful ~ (KKK)
instrument of foreign policy
he believed war was an ~
powerful instrument
a burning cross is a particularly ~ of terror (KKK)
help & assistance: tools & technology
insular (adjective)
insular warrior caste
Marine pilots are an ~
isolation & remoteness: island / sea
division & connection: island / sea
insulate (verb)
insulate our kids from (the kind of) news
we try to ~ that frightens them
insulate their lives from modern life
the Amish try to ~
protection & lack of protection: electricity / verb
isolation & remoteness: electricity / verb
insulated
insulated from violence
they lived in a world where they were ~ (Amish)
avoidance & separation: electricity
division & connection: electricity
protection & lack of protection: electricity
isolation & remoteness: electricity
insulation
community, acceptance and insulation
they feel a sense of ~ (lesbians)
protection & lack of protection: electricity
isolation & remoteness: electricity
insurance
insurance against (unpleasant) surprises
there is no ~
protection & lack of protection: money
insurrection
insurrection among his staff
the problems led to an ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: military
allegiance, support & betrayal: military
intermission (noun)
intermission in the continuing saga
his appearance this week could be just an ~ (disgraced actor)
starting, going, continuing & ending: theater

intertwined

intertwined
the economies of the US and Mexico have become really ~

division & connection: cloth

interwoven

interwoven into the (social) fabric
aggression is ~ of schools (bullying, status, etc.)

division & connection: cloth

into (be into something)

into hang gliding
he's really ~

enthusiasm: prep, adv, adj, particle

into (involvement)

into it
once you get that far ~ (extremism)

Involvement: container / prep, adv, adj, particle

intoxicate (verb)

intoxicated us
the ability to wield force has ~

feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol / verb

intoxicated

intoxicated with power
he was ~ (a politician)

intoxicated by a desire
he was ~ to run in a marathon

intoxicated by having
liberals are ~ a majority (politics)

feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol

intoxicating

entrepreneurship is intoxicating
game is intoxicating
the ~
music was intoxicating
the ~
night was intoxicating
the warm spring ~

opera is intoxicating
Italian ~

passion is intoxicating
their ~ (performers)

scene was intoxicating
the ~ (nature)
scent was intoxicating
the ~ (flowers)

sound (of drums) was intoxicating
the ~ (at an African soccer game)

found freedom intoxicating
he ~ (immigrant)

feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol

inundate (verb)

inundated the help line with calls
the public ~

amount & effect: flood / verb / water

inundated

inundated by a flood
the public is being ~ of conflicting information

inundated with email
you probably feel like you're ~, don't you

inundated with phone calls
the hospital was ~

amount & effect: flood / water

invade (verb)

invades the area
as cold air ~… (weather)

invading her dreams
she said her brother's ghost was ~ (Chinese)

invaded (1.5 million acres of) the ecosystem
exotic plant species have ~

amount & effect: military / verb

invasion (noun)

invasion of (Asian) carp
the ~ into the waters of the South and the Midwest…

invasion of immigrants
what European countries perceive as an ~

invasion of privacy
they were furious at the ~

tourist invasion
the economic benefits that will accompany the ~

British invasion
the ~ of the 1960s (music)

aquatic invasion
the Great Lakes is a hot spot for ~s (non-native species)

furry invasion
blame this ~ on climate change (polar bears in Churchill)

invisible invasion
people see immigration as an ~ (Europe)
see immigration as an (invisible) invasion
people ~ (Europe)

amount & effect: military

**invest (verb)**

invest my heart in someone
I can’t ~ who might not stick around

commitment & determination: money / verb

**investment (noun)**

emotional investment
there’s a great deal of ~ on the part of all the players

commitment & determination: money

**invitation (noun)**

invitation to frostbite or edema
it seemed an ~ (high-altitude bivouac)

invitation for ridicule
being a rookie is an engraved ~

open invitation
an e-mail address in a chat room is an ~ to spammers

attraction & repulsion: speech

**invite (verb)**

invite kids to rebel
such limits may ~ (parents are too strict)

invites aggression
appeasement ~ (diplomacy)

invites (both direct and indirect) fires
detection of a unit’s location ~

invites neglect
quarantining inmates with H.I.V. and AIDS ~ (US)

invite (nuclear) retaliation
use of chemical or biological agents will ~

invited (a lot more) scrutiny
he’s ~ because there’s more media (politics)

invite trouble
certain songs in certain parts of town ~ (gangs)

invite hand and finger movement
silly putty, play doh, and clay all ~

invite retaliation and counter expulsions
this action will ~ (spying)

attraction & repulsion: speech / verb

**fictive communication: speech / verb**

inviting

inviting
the people and the water are ~ (Jamaica)

inviting coffeehouse

a lively arts scene, an ~ on every corner (Seattle)

warm, welcoming and inviting
schools should be ~ (gay harassment)

attraction & repulsion: speech

**IQ (ability)**

ring IQ
his ~ isn’t good enough (a boxer)

high (basketball) IQ
he earned a reputation as a defender with a ~

ability & lack of ability: school & education
knowledge & intelligence: school & education

**iron curtain**

information iron curtain
China is no longer shrouded by an ~ (Internet)

division & connection: allusion / history

**ironfisted**

iron-fisted
he’s ~

iron-fisted dictator
~s have ruled the country since its birth

iron-fisted empire
the US State Department is the gloved hand of an ~

oppression: fist / materials & substances

**iron out (verb)**

iron out
there are still a few wrinkles to ~

iron out the problems
I can ~

iron out wrinkles
they still need to ~ in their new contract

amelioration & renewal: cloth / verb

**irritant**

lingering irritant
his decision was a ~ to Republicans

affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

**irritated**

surprised, dismayed, irritated and outraged
the French have been ~ by...

affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

irritating

irritating
she is really ~
character & personality / feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

irritation (emotion)
irritation and anxiety
students express ~ (rising tuition, fewer classes)
anger or irritation
he never displays ~ in public (a Shia cleric)
disagreement or irritation
"Gimme a break" expresses ~

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

island (society)
island
no man is an ~
♦ No man is an island entire of itself; every man / is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe / is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as / well as any manner of thy friends or of thine / own were; any man's death diminishes me, / because I am involved in mankind. / And therefore never send to know for whom / the bell tolls; it tolls for thee. (John Donne.)
society: island

island (island of affluence, etc.)
islands of affluence
there were isolated ~ (the Great Depression)
island of stability
Somaliland is an ~ in a sea of armed chaos
islands of convenience and prosperity
there are ~ within seas of squalor (Lagos, Bombay, etc.)
cultural island
Tunisia is a ~ bordered by sea and desert

environment: sea / island

island (beech island, etc.)
beech island
no one knows why these ~ exist (stands of beech)
coffee island
he tends the dozen dispensers at the ~ (at a mini-mart)
heat island
Tokyo is becoming a vast ~ (thermal pollution)
an urban ~ (UHI) is warmer than its surroundings
pump island
see a car pull up to a ~ (gas station)
traffic island
public bathroom on a ~ in the city center

resemblance: sea / island

it (it girl, etc.)

It Boy
~ is a French romantic comedy film (2013)

“it” girl
her attitude has turned the 78-year-old into the new political ~
meet Broadway’s newest ~

It Plant
the Powdery Liveforever has become the ~ for thieves (California)
♦ The 1927 film It starred Clara Bow.

attention, scrutiny & promotion: allusion / film / object

itch (enthusiasm)
itch to ride
once you get the ~ motorcycles, you can't help but scratch it
scratched this itch
Bitcoin ~ (for idealistic nonconformist Vitalik Buterin)

enthusiasm: sensation
itch
titch to leave
he was ~
titch to get back
he is ~ in the ring (a boxer)

eagerness & reluctance: sensation

J

jab (noun)
took a jab at Lauer
Roker ~ on air (TV feud)

accusation & criticism / conflict / speech: boxing

jackass (noun)
jackass
he's a foolish ~

character & personality / insult: animal

jackpot (hit the jackpot)

political jackpot
that would be a ~ for the president
hit the jackpot
you ~

hit the (intelligence) jackpot
they were hoping to ~ (Russian spies in US)

success & failure: gambling / money / verb

Jacobin

school reform’s new Jacobins
today, ~ have opted for a hard left turn into identity politics

disruption: allusion / history / violence
jack up (verb)
jack up the cost
green technology will ~ of power (opinion)
jack up earnings
Wall Street will always find ways to ~
jacked up (used book) prices
the company has ~
jack up (interest) rates
credit-card companies have ~ again
jack up (defense) spending
the government seeks to ~
jacking up tuitions
colleges are ~ like never before
increase & decrease: direction / tools & technology / verb
jam (situation)
get him out of this jam
perhaps a lawyer could ~
situation: container / tools & technology
jar (cookie jar)
cookie jar of jobs, concessions, contracts
Daly wants to protect the ~ (politician)
got caught with his hand in the cookie jar
he ~ (corruption)
cost & benefit: container / food & drink
jaw (jaws of defeat, etc.)
jaws of defeat
if anyone knows how to grab a victory from the ~, it is
Serena Williams
jaws of disaster
the Israeli tankers charged into the ~ (1973)
feast, fortune & chance: animal / predation
jewel (noun)
Sikkim is a ~ nestled between Bhutan and Nepal
jewel of these mountains
she was a ~ (bookmobile lady)
for some, he was a ~, a decorated chief who... (SEAL)
Jekyll and Hyde existence
he was rumored to have lived a ~ (government official)
Jekyll and Hyde portrait
a ~ emerges of SEAL accused of murder
Jekyll and Hyde role
there is a bit of a ~ for the agency (helps but also arrests)
Doctor Jekyll ~ Mister Hyde moment
it was a very strange ~ (holding job and eating disorder)
Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr Hyde was written by Robert Louis Stevenson and published in 1886.
cost & benefit: container / tools & technology
jeremiad (bitter lament)
deremiads of a Southern apologist
the nation didn’t pay heed to the ~
A jeremiad often has two elements: a bitter criticism of society and a prophecy of doom. Jeremiah is in the Bible.
message: allusion / Bible / religion
accusation & criticism: allusion / Bible / religion
jettison (verb)
jettison (the under-performing) ministers
many people wonder why he doesn’t ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: boat / verb
jettisoned
jettisoned
he was ~ (an athlete who was traded)
jettison its pariah status
Zimbabwe seeks to ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: boat
Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.)
Jews of the Caribbean
Indo-Caribbean immigrants have been called the ~
Jews of the Arab world
the Palestinians are sometimes said to be the ~
Jews of the Far East
the Chinese have been called the ~ (business, diaspora)
Jews of the 21st century
a sign said, "Latinos are the ~" (immigration protest)
migration: epithet / person
person: journeys & trips
epithet: religion
jewel (noun)
jewel
Sikkim is a ~ nestled between Bhutan and Nepal
jewel of these mountains
she was a ~ (bookmobile lady)
jewels in the crown
they are the ~ of public education (elite NYC high schools)

real jewel
it's a ~ (a kayaker speaking of a river near Vancouver)

hidden jewel
it's a ~ (a park)

superlative: mining
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

jigsaw puzzle (noun)
jigsaw puzzle of (smaller) languages
Europe was once a ~ like Ladin (Italian Dolomites)

configuration: sports & games

jockey (verb)
jockey for advantage
partisans ~ (politics)
jockeying for position
he has been ~ in the department for years
jockey for power
Ukrainians, Tatars, and ethnic Russians ~ (Crimea)
jockey for leaks and scoops
reporters ~
jockeyed for face time
guests ~ with the newly minted star (party)
fiercely jockey
reporters ~ for leaks and scoops

competition: animal / horse

Johnny Appleseed

Johnny Appleseed
we must drop the idea the US is ~ spreading democracy
Johnny Appleseed of Agriculture 2.0
she is the ~ (brings together entrepreneurs, investors)
Johnny Appleseed of near Earth object deflection
his work as the ~ has begun to bear fruit (astronomy)
served as a Johnny Appleseed
he ~ for electric cars (made long trip in one, blogging)

transmission: allusion / apple

joke (you must be joking, etc.)
joking
you must be ~

comprehension & incomprehension: speech

joke (it's a joke, etc.)
joke
this university is a ~

insult / worth & lack of worth: speech

journey (in one's journey)
in his journey from body to man
it was an important moment ~
in our journey towards the promise
this is a significant milestone ~ of stem-cell-based medicines

course: journeys & trips

journey (on a journey)
on the journey of life
how a person behaves ~ is directly related...
behaves on the journey
how a person ~ of life is directly related to...

course: journeys & trips

journey (noun)
journey from slavery
their ancestors' ~ into freedom (Passover)
journey (from slavery) into freedom
their ancestors' ~ (Passover)
journey towards modernity
Bhutan's carefully ordered ~ (elections of 2007)
journey from boy to man
in his ~
journey from complacency to (political) power
her ~ (Wilma Mankiller)
journey from slavery into freedom
their ancestors' ~ (Passover)

Bhutan's (carefully ordered) journey
~ towards modernity (elections of 2007)
ancestors' journey
their ~ from slavery into freedom (Passover)
life's journey
my ~
never-ending journey
growth and development are a ~
spiritual journey
it is the story of a ~
story of a (spiritual) journey
it is the ~
♦ Life's a journey, not a destination. (Bumper sticker.)
♦ "It's sometimes necessary during a journey to repack and remount a horse." (Chinese proverb relating to a change in the middle of a plan.)

course: journeys & trips

joust (verb)
joust among themselves for ownership
corporations ~ of…
jousting over (sensationalist) ads
the two campaigns are ~ (politics)

**conflict:** history / Middle Ages / verb

**jousting**

courtroom jousting with (federal) lawyers
the ~ was otherworldly (secrecy)
social jousting
a lot of ~ goes on (teenagers)

**conflict:** history / Middle Ages

**judge (role)**

judge
you be the ~ (preference contest)

**Judgment:** justice / person

**judged**

judged by wins and loses
as a coach, he will be ~

**Judgment:** Justice

**juggernaut**

juggernaut of optimism
a ~ vaulted him to the White House (Obama)
bureaucratic juggernaut
I'm up against a ~ that won't stop (immigration status)
cultural juggernaut
K-pop has become a ~

publicity juggernaut
she is a shill for the family's ~ (a legal case)

up against a juggernaut
he is ~ (a politician contending for nomination)

transformed Apple into a juggernaut
he ~ (Steve Jobs)

♦ A juggernaut is associated with Krishna in the Hindu religion. Or it refers to the Hindu god Jagannath. It was a huge wooden chariot carrying idols in a multistory construction. The idea that devotees threw themselves under it is a misconception.

**force:** religion

**juggle (verb)**

juggle careers and children
women who ~
juggle work and school
it can be hard to ~
juggle a full load of classes and a job
it may be hard to ~
juggles those objectives
he ~ with an unusual style
juggles (several) roles
he ~ (community activist)

juggle (multiple) tasks
employees who can handle the stress and ~

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things:** sports & games / verb

**juggling**

juggling the (conflicting) demands
~ of politics and governing

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

**confronting, deal with & ignoring things:** sports & games

**jugular (go for the jugular)**

going for the jugular
they are ~ (team in tournament)

**predation:** animal / throat / verb

**juicy**

juicy gossip
you hear some ~ that…
the book contains nearly 400 pages of ~ (on politicians)

juicy information
in the hope of obtaining ~ (journalists)

juicy revelation
there was no ~ (press conference)

**attraction & repulsion:** taste

**jumbo (large)**

jumbo jet
lightning strikes ~
jumbo squid
~, also known as Humboldt squid

♦ This word comes from the name of an Ethiopian elephant who was brought to the US in 1882 by P. T. Barnum and displayed in Barnum’s circus. The poet and etymologist John Ciardi tells his story on NPR, “Jumbo’s Big Adventure Popularizes a New Word,” April 20, 2006.

**flood:** walking, running & jumping / verb

**jump (jump at the chance, etc.)**

jump to conclusions
let's not ~
we don't know all the facts and no one should ~

jumps to conclusions
he ~, makes up his mind, and is stubborn

jumped at the chance
I ~

jumped at the opportunity
he ~ (a filmmaker)

jump (all) over this
we knew the students would just ~ (robot fast-food deliveries in dorms)
eagerness & reluctance: movement / walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (move)

jump to another company
employers worry you'll ~ (overqualified)

movement: walking, running & jumping
allegiance, support & betrayal: walking, running & jumping
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: walking, running & jumping

jump (movement)

needle jumped
the VU meter ~ (recording sounds)

movement: walking, running & jumping / verb

jumped (transmission)

jumped from birds to humans
a strain of the virus may have ~ (flu)

transmission: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (speech)

jumps from subject to subject
she ~

speech: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (progress)

jumped from ninth place to fourth
the carrier ~ in on-time arrivals (air)
jumped six spots
Lance Armstrong ~ to second overall (Tour de France)

progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (increase)

jumps by 10,000
during the summer, the county's population ~ (tourists)
demand (for electric power) will jump
the ~

increase & decrease: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (rivers can jump their banks)

jumped its banks
the Medina River ~ today near Bandera (flooding)

flood: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (jump a curb, etc.)

jumped a curb
the van ~ and plowed into three people
jumped the tracks
the train ~ near Crescent City, Florida

failure, accident & impairment: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (lines)

jumped the line
she ~ to get water for her infant (Kenyan drought)
jumped a fire line
the flames ~ crews were building (Show Low)

obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping / verb
constraint & lack of constraint: walking running & jumping / verb

jump (jump ahead)

jump ahead to the last chapter
let's ~

sequence: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (jump in)

jump in
please feel free to ~ (a discussion)

Involvement: walking, running & jumping / verb

jump (get the jump)

gotten the jump on all of them
he had ~ (a competition)

get a jump on the coming season
and so you ~ (colleges demand high school athletes graduate early)

timeliness & lack of timeliness: walking, running & jumping
starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping
competition: walking, running & jumping

jump (in jumps)

advanced in jumps
his career ~

progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping

jump (noun)

jump in (suspicious) chatter
there has been a ~

jump in the number
contributing to growth is a ~ of online shoppers

jump in traffic
news sites saw a ~ (Internet / Operation Iraqi Freedom)

increase & decrease: walking, running & jumping

jumping-off place / point

jumping-off point
he used Heidegger as a ~
shipping arms and ammunition to ~s around Iraq

initiation: walking, running & jumping
jump-start (verb)
jump-start the economy
the government is trying to ~
jump-start (supported) housing
his mandate is to ~ (politician)
jump-start the process
local governments have to ~

initiation: engine / verb

jump-start (noun)
jumpstart on the (holiday shopping) season
get a ~ (TV ad)

initiation: engine

jumpstart (competition)
jungle
it’s a ~ out there (survival of the fittest)

competition: ground, terrain & land

jungle (environment)
hobo jungle
he lives in a ~ near the train tracks

environment: ground, terrain & land

junk (worth)
junk
his experiments were ~ (expert witness at trial)
television is no longer ~ (an opinion)

junk science
handwriting, fire, fiber, and blood splatter analysis are all ~

junk status
their stock has been reduced to ~

worth & lack of worth: waste

junkie

adrenaline junkie
~s who risk life and limb (sports)
it’s bound to appeal to ~s (skeleton racing)

fitness junkie
I’m a ~ who works out every day

gadget junkie
holiday gifts for ~s (computer peripherals, etc.)

game junkie
a 16-year-old ~ with a PlayStation 2

information junkie

if you’re an ~ (technology)

news junkies
day traders, ~, and the Web

pain junkie
a bizarre band of ~s (ultrarunners)

space junkies
~ hoping to book a flight (to the space station)

waterfall junkie
hardcore ~s (those who love to find, visit falls)

college basketball junkies
~ and the NCAA tournament

junk-food junkie
a notorious slacker and ~

Internet junkie
living with an ~ (“Come to bed!”)

bona fide junkie
the average weather watcher and the ~ (storm chasers)

political junkies
~ will obsess endlessly about…

enthusiasm: addiction / health & medicine / person

jury (the jury is out)
jury
the jury is still out

jury is (still) out on whether
the ~ this approach will be successful (medicine)

certainty & uncertainty / judgment: justice

K

Kafkaesque (adjective)
Kafkaesque grounds
lawyers forced him to reopen the case on the ~ that…

Kafkaesque nightmare
my ~ is to be…

Kafkaesque outcome
that ~ demonstrates the way the system is run (education)

fantasy & reality: allusion / person

kangaroo court
kangaroo court
the term “~” came to mind (Title IX investigation)
she claimed the hearing took place in a ~ (English Football)
campus kangaroo courts
~ deny the accused rights (US universities)

judgment: animal / justice

oppression: animal / justice
karat (24-karat)
24-karat gold
he has a heart of ~
24-karat gold (m)
he is a ~ personality (a restaurant owner)
24-karat moment
Brooklyn's championship was a ~ (baseball)
24-karat nugget
his Short Symphony is a ~ (Copeland)
24 karat product
the products I've sold are ~ in every way (fund-raiser)
24 karat or fool's gold
it's hard to say if he is ~ (an athlete bought by a team)
worth & lack of worth: mining

karma (fate)
artistic good karma
the musical has had ~ to... (topicality)
fate, fortune & chance: religion

keel (even keel)
keep things on an even keel
let's ~
keep an even keel
I need to ~ for my kids (trial of dad)
equilibrium & stability: boat

keep up (consciousness & awareness: walking, running & jumping / verb)
keep up (progress)
keep up
we want to ~ and not fall behind (government official)
technology is outpacing the ability of governments to ~
keeping up
working-class families aren't ~ (educating kids)
keeping up with the rest of the world
in education, the US is not ~
progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping / verb
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement

kernel (noun)
kernel of a (future) threat
the far-sighted saw a ~
creation & transformation: plant
growth & development: plant

key (important)
key
the ~ is to notice when and where he does it (toddler)
this could be the ~ that unlocks the mystery
key to (successful) marriage
the ~ is...
key to his (business) strategy
the ~
key to (mission) success
coordination and flexibility are ~ (military)
key to (the school's) success
teamwork is the ~
key to survival
hard work was the ~ (the Great Depression)
key to investing
the ~ is...
key accomplishments
write down your ~ and use specific examples (job)
key advantage
Vodaphone has ~s over the competition
key aides
kill the terrorist bin Laden and his ~
key alloy
nickel is a ~ in stainless steel
key (regime) assets
targeting ~ (military)
key bridges
~, road intersections, and mountain passes (war)
key (engine) components
key courses
avoid crowding in ~
key decision
when it comes to ~s
key detail
it overlooked one ~
key difference
he points out a ~ between the men
key emotion
empathy, the ~, emerges early
key evidence
his dying declaration was the ~ (murder case)
key fact
the ~ was that...
key factor
communications is the ~; three ~s contribute to burnout...
key (terrain) features
~ and landmarks (military)

key figure
he is the ~ in the group

key infrastructure
every other ~ depends on it (electricity) (terrorism)

key meetings
~ held privately by the rich counties

key message
I think one of the ~s is…

key moment
he failed to maintain his situation awareness at ~s (war)

key objective
the airfield would be a ~

key organizer
Beck was a ~ of the Seattle protests

key partner
Ethiopia is a ~ in US counterterrorism efforts in the Horn of Africa

key (leadership) positions
troops in ~

key post
he went to work filling the ~s (government)

key principle
the ~ in the court case

key requirement
the ~ during a retrograde is to maintain positive control

key rules
Teach your swimmers these four ~ (drownings)

key species
the caribou is a ~ in the refuge

key technique
mastered the ~ to create a nuclear bomb

key term
define the ~s listed in this chapter (nursing)

key terrain
the target may be ~, a farm, a ridgeline
seize or hold ~ and counterattack the enemy;
the high ground in desert terrain is usually ~;
~ or landmarks are used to…(minefield)

key test
the ~ will involve…(gene therapy)

key time
their parents are home at ~s of the day

key (rebel-held) town
a ~

key witness
police didn’t interview ~s
the ~ for the prosecution

key transit point
Kandahar is a ~ for raw opium

key staging area
Peshawar served as the ~

key finding
a ~ was lax security (prison escape)

Importance & significance: key

key (throw away the key)
throw away the key
they should put him in jail and ~

punishment & recrimination: key / verb

keynote (noun)

keynote speaker
the ~ was…

importance & significance: sound

keystone

keystone members
vultures are ~ of the scavenging community

keystone species
a ~ helps determine the types of other species
as the ~ disappears, so do others (oaks)
the walrus is considered a ~ in Arctic marine ecosystems

♦ A keystone is the stone at the apex of an arch (or vault) that helps to
lock the structure in place and prevents it from collapsing, in many
cases.

bases: infrastructure

kick (kick one’s butt, etc.)
kicked my butt
asthma ~ (the great boxer Shannon Briggs)

resistance, opposition & defeat: foot / verb

hitting, slamming & lashing: foot / leg / verb

kick (kick oneself)

kicked myself
I ~ for not doing a better job of…

punishment & recrimination: foot / verb

kick (kick in the teeth, etc.)
kick in the teeth
it’s been a real ~

feeling, emotion & effect: foot / verb

kickback

bribery and kickback (m)
taken him to court on ~ charges (politician)

bribery, kickbacks, theft and conspiracy
a web of ~ (military contracts / Iraq)

**social interaction:** foot
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: foot

**kicked off**
kicked off the (soccer) team
he was almost ~ for missing practices…
kicked off her team
she may now be ~... (kid)

**dismissal, removal & resignation:** foot / leg

**kicked out**
kicked out of Harvard
he was ~ for… (William Randolph Hearst)
kicked out of her dorm
her daughter was getting ~ for not paying rent
kicked out of their families
elderly women ~ (witchcraft / Mozambique)
kicked out of a (UW master’s) program
he was ~ because… (student)
kicked out of the stadium
if a fan chants racist abuse now, he is ~ (soccer)
get kicked out
if they tell their parents, they ~... (gay students);
I’d rather leave than ~ (a bad school)

got kicked out
I wanted to be a priest, but I ~ of seminary

**dismissal, removal & resignation:** foot / leg

**kick in (start)**
kick in
the link between recession and crime may ~
instinct kicked in
a stubborn playground ~ (not backing down in combat)
training kicks in
and then your ~ (combat)
wealth and connections kicked in
when he returned to Mexico, his ~ (extradited politician)
time to kick in
give your new diet ~ (weight loss)

**initiation:** engine / foot / leg / mechanism / verb

**kick up (verb)**
gale kicked up
a ~, causing a choking dust storm (Kansas)
waves kicked up
had the ~... (open canoe in Glacier Bay)
wind kicked up
the ~ and the ridgetop turned frigid (Afghan combat)
wind was kicking up
but the ~, there was no moon and they need to hurry

**initiation:** foot / leg / verb

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 366 of 982
**kill (verb)**

- kill the legislation
  - liberals helped to ~
- killed the story
  - Esquire ~ (by Nelson Algren about Rubin Carter)

**destruction: death & life / verb**

**curtailment: death & life / verb**

**kill (verb / accomplishment)**

- killed it
  - he ~ (an excellent performance)
- killing it
  - they are ~ (a company doing well)
- digs, kills, assists, blocks, aces
  - ~ (volleyball)

◊ “They are killing it, they are crushing KFC.” (Chick-fil-A versus Kentucky Fried Chicken, according to a professor of marketing at the Wharton School of Business.)

**success & failure: death & life / verb**

**killer (silent killer, etc.)**

Silent Killer
- carbon monoxide, the ~

**death & life / destruction: epithet**

**epithet: death & life**

**kill off (verb)**

- kill off old habits
  - it's difficult to ~

**destruction: death & life / verb**

**curtailment: death & life / verb**

**killjoy (person)**

killjoy
- she was trying to be realistic and not a ~ (an educator)

**feeling, emotion & effect: death & life / person**

**character & personality: person**

**kind-hearted**

kindhearted (m)
- a ~ woman gave him some food

**character & personality: heart**

**kindle (verb)**

kindles fears
- release of bombing figure ~

kindled an (environmental) movement
- her protest ~ (save the trees)

kindle violent behavior
- its ability to ~ (alcohol and cocaine)

**initiation: fire / verb**

**increase & decrease: fire / verb**

**king (animals)**

king of beasts
- this ~ (a lion)

king of fishes
- on the white sand at the bottom lay the sturgeon, ~

**superlative: royalty**

**king (king cobra , etc.)**

king cobra
- just a glimpse of a ~ can spread panic on a tea plantation
  - the ~ reaches up to 8 feet in length (India)
  - the ~ can growl (India)

king salmon
- ~ is the largest of Alaska's five salmon species
  - ~ can weigh 30 pounds or more (Yukon River)
  - ~, also called Chinook salmon…

**proper name: royalty**

**king (King of Beers, etc.)**

king
- in this seafood-crazed country, tuna is ~ (Japan / sushi)
  - the automobile is ~ (issue of walkability of cities)

King of Beers
- Budweiser, the ~

king of fruit
- Xiyuangualu lychees were dubbed "the ~" (China)

King of Steaks
- Pat's ~ (Harry and Pat Olivieri / Philly cheese steak)

king of wool
- shahtoosh wool, the "~" in Persian (Tibetan antelope)

**superlative: epithet / royalty**

**epithet: royalty**

**king (primacy)**

king
- the customer is ~ (said by a Sony Corporation exec)
  - colleges where football is ~

king of the carnival
- King Momo, ~ (Rio)

king of Russian chanson
- Mikhail Krug, often called the ~, was murdered

king of the hill
- kids like to play ~

king of the mountains (m)
- points in the ~ competition (Tour de France)

King of Pop
- Michael Jackson, the ~, was also the king of shyness

**carnival king**
a representation of the ~ is set ablaze (Martinique)

kings and queens
homecoming, the American tradition featuring ~ (school)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty
superlative: person / royalty
person: royalty

King Canute
King Canute
eliminating abuse is like ~ trying to hold back the tide

control & lack of control: allusion / sea / tide

kingdom (animal kingdom)

animal kingdom
Darwin linked humans to the rest of the ~ (evolution)
taxonomy & classification: royalty

kingdom (Magic Kingdom, etc.)

Magic Kingdom
smiling faces at the ~ (Disney)

proper name: royalty

kingpin
drug kingpin
the ~ was executed... (Federal execution)
~s continue to run their cartels from prison (Mexico)
ballads about bandits and ~s (grupero music)

powerful kingpin
police have captured many of the most ~s (drug cartels)

bases / importance & significance: mechanism

kink (noun)
kinks
the ~ have been worked out (interagency coordination)
there are still some ~ to be worked out

kinks in the process
there are still some ~

kinks in the service
there are some ~

kinks in the system
perhaps the Mayor can work out the ~

annoying kink
the system still has ~s (gesture technology)

iron out any kinks
they are having a test run to ~ (restaurant opening)

work out the kinks
US officials are trying to ~ (border security)

flaws & lack of flaws: rope

kinship (noun)

kinship with the painter
he felt an immediate ~

felt an (immediate) kinship
he ~ with the painter

feeling, emotion & effect: family
relationship: family
division & connection: family

Kipling (Rudyard)

Canadian Kipling
he earned the nickname, the ~ (Robert W. Service)

ability & lack of ability: epithet

kiss of death

kiss of death
asking for a term paper in four weeks is the ~ (cheating)
if he does endorse someone, it turns out to be a ~

once you lose credibility, that's the ~ (crisis management)

trying to ban handguns would be the ~ (US)

kiss of death to a teen girl's reputation
teenage pregnancy used to be the ~

kiss of death politically
to be seen as a US supporter is a ~

This refers to the kiss that Judas gave Jesus after the last supper, which identified Jesus to the soldiers.

destruction: allusion / Bible / death & life / religion
fate, fortune & chance: allusion / Bible / death & life / religion

knee (bring to one's knees)
brought the pirates to their knees
the war ~ (Barbary States)

bring the rebels to their knees
their efforts to ~

brought this (once-mighty) bank to its knees
he ~

resistance, opposition & defeat: knee / standing, sitting & lying / verb
condition & status: knee / standing, sitting & lying / verb

knee (on knees)
on its knees
the economy was ~, now it's on its feet (politics)

condition & status: knee / standing, sitting & lying

knee-jerk (adjective)
knee-jerk reaction
the gun law was a ~ to the Parkland school shooting
hysteria and ~s (election politics)

this law is a ~ to a tragic event
control & lack of control: health & medicine / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

**knell (death knell)**

sounded the death knell for VHS DVD ~
sounded the death knell for these landmarks
   the mobile phone may have ~ (London’s red phone boxes)
sound death knell for youth
   drugs ~ (Kachin State in northern Burma)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: burial / death & life / sound**

**destruction: burial / death & life / sound**

**decline: burial / death & life / sound**

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: burial / death & life / sound**

**knife (knife in the heart)**

knife in the heart
   the date Feb. 6, 1958, is still a ~ (Man. U fan)

**destruction: blade / creature / death & life / knife**

**feeling, emotion & effect: blade / death & life / heart / knife**

**knife-edged**

knife-edged ridge
   the headwalls of back-to-back cirques form ~s

**shape: blade / knife**

**knife (Black Knights, etc.)**

Black Knights
   the Robbinsville ~ (high-school football team)

Golden Knights
   the ~ Army Parachute Team

Scarlet Knights
   the ~ are off to a slow start (Rutgers football)

**proper name: Middle Ages**

**knight (knight in shining armor)**

knight in shining armor
   I’m the ~ (Lenox Lewis, out to save boxing)

**help & assistance: Middle Ages / person**

**knit (knit together)**

knits together many threads
   the story ~ of Muslim grievances (suicide bomber)
knit the plays together
   he ~ through overlapping themes (August Wilson)
knits this country together
   the flood ruined every thread that ~
knits a country together as one
   it’s a ~ (soccer)

knit together as a unit
   it has taken the team a while to ~

**division & connection: cloth / verb**

**knock out (verb)**

knocked out power
   winds ~ (hurricane)
   the storm ~ to thousands
   the storm ~ to about 1.2 million people (California)

knocked out (several major power) utilities
   the failure ~ (huge blackout)

knocked out 280 feet
   the flood ~ of the 36-inch steel pipe (water line)

flood knocked out 280 feet
   the ~ of the 36-inch steel pipe (water line)

storm knocked out power
   the ~ to thousands

**hitting, slamming & lashing: boxing / fist / verb**

**knockout (noun)**

knockout blow
   the air campaign failed to deliver a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)
   the ~ was delivered when… (crime investigation / indictments)

knockout figure
   she had a ~ and dressed provocatively

**knot (noun)**

tie the city in knots
   1 million tourists will ~ (Olympics)

**obstacles & impedance: rope**

**Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)**

drunk the Kool-Aid
   kids who have ~ (only one path to good live / school)

**acceptance & rejection: food & drink**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: food & drink**

**kowtow (verb)**

kowtow to anyone
   he did not feel like he had to ~

kowtow to the (religious) establishment
   there is no need to ~ (broadcasting)

kowtow to the (very) rich
   he will not ~ (Barak)

**dominance & submission: religion / verb**

**resistance, opposition & defeat: religion / verb**
**label (noun)**

"one-percenter label
the ~ became a badge of honor (bikers)

**characterization: product**

**labeled**

labeled a troublemaker
he was ~ in school

**characterization: product**

**laboratory**

laboratory for warfighting doctrines
Kandahar will be the ~ forged from…

**experimentation: place**

**labor pains**

labor pains
how to let peace be born despite the difficult ~

**creation & transformation: birth**

**labyrinth**

labyrinth of (feuding) clans and subclans
a ~ (Somalia)

labyrinth of passageways
inside the ~ (aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth)

bureaucratic labyrinth
working his way through the ~
waiting for years in the ~s of the immigration system

♦ Gardens are associated with mazes, knot gardens and labyrinths. People also enjoy corn and mirror mazes. Labyrinth is of Minoan origin and is associated with the Minotaur.

**complexity: allusion / infrastructure**

**lacerate (verb)**

lacerated Trump’s calls
he ~ for the FBI to investigate political enemies

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

**ladder (hierarchy)**

ladder
ty they failed right on up the ~ (politics)

ladder’s (lowest) rung
the socioeconomic ~

career ladder
he is moving up the ~ (military)

immigrant ladder
Chaudri climbed a well-worn ~ (washed dishes, cab)

income ladder
for her and others up and down the ~

political ladder
by the mid-seventies he had climbed the ~ even higher

promotion ladder
the Army should break down its rigid ~ (reform)

tenure ladder
once you’ve fought and clawed your way up the ~
(university)

beauty-pageant ladder
she began to move up the ~

corporate ladder
their rung on the ~
arrogance and ego at the top of the ~

economic ladder
anyone who works hard enough can climb the ~ (US)

educational ladder
as women started climbing the ~ (effects on marriage)

socioeconomic ladder
the ~’s lowest rung

supervisory ladder
I never tried to go up the ~

rung on the (corporate) ladder
their ~

climbed the (corporate) ladder
he ~

move up the (economic) ladder
the play chronicles the struggles of a family to ~

moving up the (career) ladder
he is ~ (military)

promoted up the (developmental) ladder
he was ~ (a baseball player)

**hierarchy: direction / ladder**

**ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)**

ladders of opportunity
we have created ~ (education)

ladder to prosperity
they want to make education a ~

**help & assistance: direction / ladder**

**Lady Macbeth (epithet)**

Lady Macbeth of Arkansas
the yuppie wife from hell, the ~ (Hillary Clinton)

Lady Macbeth of the Balkans
she was known as the “~” (Mira Markovic)

**control & lack of control: allusion / epithet**
lag (progress)

lagging
their kids' grades and test scores are ~

progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running & jumping

growth & development: movement / walking, running & jumping

lagoon

lagoon
~s where hog manure is stored

hog-waste lagoon
North Carolina's 4,000 ~s

pumped into lagoons
sewage is ~ and left to evaporate or leach into the ground

resemblance: sea

lake

lake of fire
eternal damnation in the ~

resemblance: water

lamb

lambs
death devours sheep as well as ~
♦ Death devours lambs as well as sheep.

growth & development: animal / sheep

lamb (sacrificial lamb)

sacrificial lamb
the computers served them up as a ~ (BCS football)
♦ They refused to be taken like lambs to the slaughter (hijacked passengers).

sacrifice: animal / sheep

lambast (verb)

lambast the president
the press conference saw him repeatedly ~
♦ Lambast (or lambaste) means to beat or whip severely.

accusation & criticism: whip / verb

speech: whip

lame (lame excuse, etc.)

lame excuse
she refused to listen to my ~s
~s for dumping partners
what kind of ~ is that

attenuation: walking, running & jumping
flaws & lack of flaws: walking, running & jumping

lance (verb)

lance this (perpetual) boil

we need to ~ (diplomacy)

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb

land (land a job, etc.)

landed a (bottom-rung) job
she ~ there (at a TV station)

pursuit, capture & escape: animal / fish

land (plane lands)

how this plane lands
it's unclear ~ (budget talks)

development: plane / verb

landmark

landmark act
a ~ passed by the Senate (victims of human trafficking)

landmark case
the US Supreme Court, in a ~ in 2000, rejected…

landmark climb
he made a number of ~s in the Alps

landmark discovery
the ~ could pave the way for new medicines

landmark moment
it was a ~ in the evolution of artificial intelligence

landmark project
one of his ~s was a shrine… (King Tut)

landmark step
the ruling was a ~ (rape within marriage / Mexico)

landmark study
his ~ compared students… (single-sex schools)

landmark work
"Desert of the Heart" is considered a ~ of lesbian fiction

stand as a landmark
his plays ~ in the history of black culture

direction: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips

importance & significance: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips

landmine

landmines
she worries about what she sees as ~ planted by Alito

landmine for prosecution
this is a ~ (new evidence)

step on that landmine
no nominee would ~ (contentious issue)

danger: explosion / military / walking, running & jumping / weapon
**landscape (noun)**

*landscape*
her patience for this ~ varies (NYC magazine publishing)

*landscape of journalism*
the Internet transformed the ~

*media landscape*
the ~ was very different in the 1980s

*sport landscape*
the ~

*technology landscape*
a clearer picture of our future ~ (airline)

*nanoscale landscape*
viruses, microchips operate in a ~

*economic landscape*
changes in the ~

*educational landscape*
positive changes across the American ~

*ethnic landscape*
the brutal violence has reshaped the ~

*political landscape*
and here to talk about the ~ is… (radio show)
the ~ was dramatically altered by the attack
the democrats dominated the ~ for more than a generation

*American political landscape*
he left the ~ much the same way it was (Mueller hearings)

*religious landscape*
part of the ~

*social landscape*
the ~

*technological landscape*
adapted to the new ~

*new financial landscape*
electronic trading has created a ~

*post-Title IX landscape*
in the ~, sexual panic rules (universities)

*changes in the (economic) landscape*
there have been vast ~ since the fall of Communism

*part of the (public-school) landscape*
charter schools are a significant ~

*landscape may (well) change*
the heavyweight ~ once more (coming fights)

*landscape shifted*
then, in the late ‘90s, the football ~ (US)

*altered the landscape*
pandemics ~ of public health forever

*changed the landscape*

---

**landslide (noun)**

*landslide*

*loose ~ (grants for Duchenne research)*
Obama has ~ for all America (race)

*dominate the landscape*

*health-maintenance organizations came to ~*

*reshaped the (political) landscape*
in 2016 he ~ but lost (Bernie Sanders)

♦ If you think about it, the landscape is constantly changing as you are moving through it. So does the contours of the land.

*area / environment: ground, terrain & land*

**landslide (by a landslide)**

*lost in a landslide*
Carter ~ to Republican Ronald Reagan

*win in a landslide*
if people voted today, he would ~

*amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / landslide*

**landslide (by a landslide)**

*won by a landslide*
he ~ on the scorecards (boxer)

*amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / landslide*

**landslide (other)**

*landslide of evidence*
there was a ~ that fell around this defendant

*landslide vote*
Proposition 187 was approved in a ~ (California)

*landslide victory*
the opposition won a ~ in Kenyan elections
he was appointed principal chief in a ~ (Cherokee)

♦ In 1841, an earthquake caused a rockslide that blocked the Indus River. A huge lake formed behind the natural dam. Later in the year it failed, causing perhaps the largest flood in recorded history. Far downriver and across a plain, 500 Sikh soldiers died at Attock.

♦ In 1999, mudslides in Venezuela killed 10- to 30,000 people in Vargas State.

*amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / landslide*

**lane (experience)**

*lane*
this isn’t just my ~, it’s my highway (doctor on gun control)

*pop lane*
a lot of people have veered into the ~ (from country music)

*stay in their lane*
anti-gun doctors should ~ (fix wounded, not protest guns)

*carve out her own lane*
she has managed to ~ (singing, fashion, etc.)

*experience / interest: infrastructure*

**language (of sports, cars, etc.)**

*language of boxing*
he understood the universal ~ (ref’s gestures, etc.)
language of hope
    the ~—whether, when and how to invoke it (hospitals)

language of science
    the abstract, technical ~ (environmental issues)

language of "sport"
    the international ~ (soccer)

language of the string
    they have the ~ (international yo-yo contest)

language of white supremacy
    Southern elected leaders spoke the ~ (after reconstruction)

language of war
    its language is the ~ (US football)

language of understanding, peace and harmony
    a smile is the universal ~

language of acronyms and weapons systems
    she fluently speaks the military ~ (a young soldier)

language of football
    Bora Milutinovic speaks the ~ (soccer)

body language
    people send messages through their ~
    mismatches between words and ~ (liars)
    the worst sort of ~ to show a gorilla

computer language
    Java, a ~ created by Sun Microsystems
    FORTRAN was the first widely used ~

programming language
    write applications in the Java ~

different language
    it’s a ~ (military acronyms)
    physicists are often speaking a ~ than biologists (math)

international "language"
    the ~ of sport (soccer)

universal language
    a smile is the ~ of understanding, peace and harmony
    he understood the ~ of boxing (ref’s gestures, etc.)

speaks the language
    Bora Milutinovic ~ of football (soccer)

understood the (universal) language
    he ~ of boxing (ref’s gestures, etc.)

♦ Cars have their own language—clunks, clanks, squeals, squeaks, and rattles—which can say a lot about a vehicle’s health.

fictive communication: speech

lap (in the lap of)

    in the lap of the administration
        it puts the issue ~ (politics)

    falls in the lap
        the issue now ~ of the head of food safety

    landed in the lap
        the case ~ of a federal judge

    puts the issue in the lap
        it ~ of the administration (politics)

responsibility: body / container

lap (possession)

    company’s lap
        consumer data falls into the ~

possession: body

lap (victory lap)

    took a victory lap
        President Trump ~ at the Michigan rally (politics)

achievement, recognition & praise: sports & games

lapdog (noun)

    lapdogs of Bush and Cheney
        The New York Times reporters were ~ (Iraq War)

dominance & submission: animal / dog

lapidary (adjective)

    lapidary
        The Essays in Idleness are ~ (Kenko)

    lapidary poems
        his most ~ (Philip Larkin)

    lapidary precision
        he is a realist painter of ~ (Caleb Considine)

♦ This word often appears in the New Yorker Magazine, in reviews of artists. It refers to the work involved in cutting, polishing and engraving precious stones.

flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

superlative: mining

lap up (verb)

    lapped up such complaints
        he ~ (an editorial cartoonist)

consumption: animal / food & drink / tongue / verb

absorption & immersion: food & drink / tongue / verb

lash (verb)

    lashed the islands with wind and rain
        the hurricane ~

hitting, slamming & lashing: verb / violence / whip
lash out (verb)
lash out at (Obama's) campaign
the GOP nominee ~
lashed out at the (US) military
he ~
lashed out over (questionable) reporting
he ~ (a bereaved father)
speech: verb / violence / whip
accusation & criticism: verb / violence / whip
last-ditch (adjective)
last-ditch appeal
his lawyers filed a ~ (capital case)
last-ditch effort
a hiring freeze is often a ~ to reduce staff
last-ditch measure
operators used seawater as a ~ to cool the reactors
conflict: military
difficulty, easiness & effort: military
fate, fortune & chance: military
resistance, opposition & defeat: ground, terrain & land / military
last hurrah
last hurrah
WW II veterans gathered for a ~ (memorial)
last hurrah for the (landmark) restaurant
it was a ~ (New Year's Eve celebration / bankrupt)
girls' last hurrah
this is these ~ (bachelorette party)
beginning or a last hurrah
it may be a new ~ (US health-care legislation)
laugh (last laugh)
laugh (last laugh)
have the last laugh
he may ~ here (congressional hearing)
have a kind of last laugh
even though the A380 killed off the 747, Boeing will have a ~
♦ Just because you see the teeth of the lion, do not think he is smiling at you!
revenge: bodily process
launch (verb)
launched the age
he ~ of chemical warfare (Fritz Haber / 1915)
launched an (international appeal
the Red Cross has ~ for aid (Haiti earthquake)
launched a (court) challenge
he has ~ against the King (Swaziland)
launched a campaign
they ~ of civil disobedience (Birmingham)
launched a crackdown
the government has ~ on corruption
launched a (hugely popular) franchise
the blockbuster film ~ (X-Men)
launched a movement
they ~ that has been both applauded and denounced
launched a project
the department ~ to install lights at crossings (safety)
launched a revolution
he ~ (astronomer looking at X-ray emitters)
launched a (massive) search
officials ~ for the missing sailor
launched an (all-out) war
in 2003 Thailand ~ on meth (Yaba)
launch a (trade) war
he wants to ~
launched his business
he this spring

initiation: flying & falling / throwing, putting & planting / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: flying & falling / throwing, putting & planting / verb
throwing, putting & planting: flying & falling / mechanism / verb
inauguration: flying & falling / mechanism / verb

launching pad

launch pads for emotions
murder trials can be ~, which can be sky-high

launching pad for the invasion
Kuwait will be the main ~

launching pad for gay marriage
Hawaii seemed the likely ~

launching pad for the embassy bombings
Somalia was a ~ (1998)

initiation: mechanism / rocket
throwing, putting & planting: mechanism / rocket

launer (verb)

launered (the warden’s) money
Andy Dufresne ~

concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / hygiene / verb
subterfuge: clothing & accessories / hygiene / verb

laundry (laundry list)

laundry list of unacceptable behaviors
a ~

amount: clothing & accessories

laurels (praise)

won more laurels
he ~ leading world-renowned ensembles (Andre Previn)

achievement, recognition & praise: history / tree

law (law of the jungle, etc.)

law of the jungle
for such is the ~, death to the weaker, food to the stronger

predation: animal / Jungle
competition: animal / Jungle

Lawrence (T. E.)

Lawrence of Iraq
Travis Patriquin has been dubbed the T. E. ~

America’s “Lawrence of Arabia”
Captain Travis Patriquin, ~ in Ramadi

conflict: epithet / allusion
epithet: history / military

lay (lay bare)

lays bare the fault lines
the report ~ that divide this group (Amish)

concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / verb

lay (lay into)

laid into President Trump’s policies
he ~

accusation & criticism: force / verb
speech: force / verb / violence

layer (analysis)

layer of the onion
you notice that for every ~ there’s another underneath it

layer deeper
we need to dig a ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation: fruits & vegetables / mining

lay of the land

lay of the land
he knew the ~ (Congress)
can you give us the ~ (explain something)

area / environment: ground, terrain & land
analysis, interpretation & explanation: ground, terrain & land

lead (one thing leads to another)

leads his colleagues to "blow up"
the pressure ~ from time to time

led scientists to document
his discovery ~ earlier outbreaks (epidemic)

lead you to your best achievements
the truth is, fear of failure can ~

led me to a different conclusion
my analysis ~

led women to desperate acts
a decade of war has ~ (Chechnya)

lead him down a dangerous path
his unswerving belief in himself ~

lead to blindness
trachoma can ~ as eyelashes turn in on the eyeball

lead to the collapse
the situation could ~ of the Iraqi government

lead to a confrontation
a feud between next-door neighbors ~

lead to death
even drops of spittle or beads of sweat can ~ (Marburg)
led to death
  pregnancy often ~ in childbirth (19th century US)

lead to dissention
  bonus disparities can ~ in the ranks (military)

leads to doom
  in social-hygiene films, transgressions ~

led to (rapid) innovation
  his modern version of a wing suit has ~ (de Gayardon)

lead to reductions
  price controls ~ in supply and investment

lead to success
  factors that will ~

led to trouble
  how my nighttime walk ~

led to the breakup
  the issue ~ of their marriage (attending sex clubs)

lead to an ileus
  pneumonia can ~, abdominal distention and fever

lead to (intraabdominal) abscess
  intestinal leaks may ~

lead to menstrual dysfunction
  an eating disorder can ~, osteoporosis (athletes)

leads to abuses of power
  secrecy ~ (terrorism investigations)

situation could lead
  the ~ to the collapse of the Iraqi government

direction: journeys & trips / movement / verb
development: direction / movement / verb

leak (verb)

word leaked
  but on Thursday, ~ that the visa would not be granted

leaking: water / verb

leak (noun)

leaks of information
  he condemned ~ (FBI investigation)

leak of (classified) information
  the possible ~

leaks to the press
  there had been ~ about… (jetliner crash)

leaks and scoops
  reporters fiercely jockeying for ~

leaks, supposition, speculation, and spin
  there’s been ~ (investigation)

leaking: water

leaked

leaked voice mail
  on his ~, he called his daughter a rude little pig

leaking: water

leak out (verb)

leak out
  what you tell them would ~ (school counselors)

leaked out in bits and pieces
  the truth ~ (politician)

leaks out in debt repayments
  aid to Africa ~ ("leaking bucket syndrome")

prevent details from leaking out
  they want to ~ (explosion in North Korea)

news leaked out
  the ~ about…

word leaked out
  ~ and… (Iraq)

leaking: water / verb

lean (size)

lean and agile
  the company is ~

lean and nimble
  the company must become more ~

size: fatness & thinness

ability & lack of ability: fatness & thinness

lean (insufficiency)

lean times
  voters are sick and tired of ~

lean years
  she had some ~ (a professional golfer)

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: fatness & thinness

lean (lean on)

lean on them
  we need to ~ (police)

lean on his lawyer, Jeff Sessions and other aides
  the report details his efforts to ~ (obstruction of justice)

coercion & motivation: standing, sitting & lying / verb

lean in (verb)

leaning in
  he has not been trying to hide, he has been ~, begging to tell his story

leaning in on (thorny) issues
  even Obama praised him for ~ (a popular young politician)
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: standing, sitting & lying / verb

**lean into (lean in / into something)**

lean into it
the women pulled no punches, they would just ~
(scriptwriters for SVU)

leaned in to her heritage
in recent years Beyoncé has ~ to her heritage, celebrating race and culture

**commitment & determination: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**lean towards (verb)**

leaning towards voting
she is ~ for disapproval (declaration of national emergency)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**leap (leap into action, etc.)**

leaped to defend him
Churchill ~ (Stalin / World War II)

leapt into action
the police ~

leapt into the fray
eminent academics and writers ~ (literary controversy)

**eagerness & reluctance: movement / walking, running & jumping / verb**

**leap (transmission)**

leap from animals to humans
some viruses can ~

**transmission: walking, running & jumping / verb**

**leap (the leap of a waterfall, etc.)**

leap, splash and spray
the ~ of waterfalls

**resemblance: walking, running & jumping**

**leap (commitment)**

leap of faith
you've just got to make a ~, and I'm here to catch you take a ~ and trust again or get out (unfaithful spouse)

leap of the imagination
America is a ~ (history)

**commitment & determination: walking, running & jumping**

**fate, fortune & chance: walking, running & jumping**

**leap (noun)**

leaps in (bike) design
significant ~

leaps in (manufacturing) efficiency

leaps in (math) proficiency
students have made great ~

leap in (weapons) technology
this ~

**leap to stardom**
she reflects on her ~ (film actor)

leap to television
they made the ~ (from the early days of film)

leap from booby to boo-boo
it is a short linguistic ~

leap from mediocrity to greatness
11 companies that made the ~

leaps and bounds
the organization was growing by ~
the intelligence community has grown by ~

technology leap
every new ~— the longbow, the tank, the atom bomb…

great leap
students have made ~s in math proficiency

mental leap
if one can make the ~ to imagine Go in heaven…

short (linguistic) leap
it is a ~ from booby to boo-boo

significant leap
~ in bike design

made the leap
they ~ to television (from the early days of film)

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping**

throwing, putting & planting: walking, running & jumping

**leap (leaps and bounds)**

by leaps and bounds
the organization was growing ~

in leaps and bounds
technology has advanced ~

**increase & decrease: walking, running & jumping**

speed: walking, running & jumping

**leapfrog (verb)**

leapfrogged (traditional) technology
China has ~ (cellphone usage)

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping / verb**
learn (verb)

learned from his loses
he has ~

knowledge & intelligence: school & education / verb

lease (lease on life)

new lease on life
the medication gave him a ~
the new term feels like a ~ (a teacher)
technology has given publishing a ~
gave him a (new) lease on life
the medication ~

amelioration & renewal: document

lease (on a leash)

on a constitutional leash
she believes in a government ~
on a (very) short (constitutional) leash
she believes in a government ~
keeps him on a short leash
the company ~ (an actor who is also a pitchman)

control & lack of control: animal / dog
constraint & lack of constraint: animal / dog

leave (leave something alone)

leave it alone
people told me to ~ (don’t speak out, get involved, in murder case)

Involvement: direction / verb

leech (person)

leech
the ~, the busy bee, the whiner (types of bad friends)
~s come with the sudden wealth (pro athletes)
those ~s take it all (Christian aid groups vs. refugees)
despised the poor as leeches
he ~ who weakened society (Atlas Shrugged)

affliction: animal / person
character & personality: animal / person
person: animal

leeway (noun)

leeway
she doesn't allow me any ~

constraint & lack of constraint: boat

left behind (progress)

left behind
the poor are ~ (services go to wealthy)

progress & lack of progress: direction

left field (out of left field)

come out of left field
the announcement ~ (unexpected)

* "This thing was not only from left field, it was from the planet Mars, because it didn’t happen..." (A politician dismissing an old accusation of sexual abuse.)
* This refers to a throw from the left fielder to either first base or home plate, surprising the runner. Ordinarily, a throw from the outfield is cut off by the second-baseman. It takes an outfielder with a strong arm to make such a long throw.

appearance & disappearance: baseball / sports & games

leg (first leg, etc.)

leg of the journey
conditions on the return ~ were worse

leg of the trip
the plane left for the second ~ to Dover Air Force Base

leg of training
the final ~ for soldiers trying to become Green Berets

return leg
conditions on the ~ of the journey were worse

first leg
the ~ of his journey

second leg
the plane left for the ~ of the trip to Dover AFB

final leg
the ~ of training for soldiers trying to become Green Berets

sequence: leg

leg (grow legs)

grew legs
my website ~ (became successful)

growth & development: leg / verb

leg (leg to stand on)

have a (firm) leg to stand on
he didn’t ~ (Secretary of Labor resigns)

allegiance, support & betrayal: leg

legacy (obsolescence)

legacy costs
the "~" of retiree health care and pensions (industry)

legacy equipment
adding high-tech sensors to ~ is expensive and challenging

legacy issues
there are many companies that need to confront ~

legacy system
drivers are available for ~s such as Windows 98

"legacy" technology
~~an industry euphemism for obsolete hardware
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>legacy thinking</th>
<th>legacy thinking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>generals are locked in a cold-war mindset—~</td>
<td>the romance of the West versus its ~ (US)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>primacy, currency, decline &amp; obsolescence: family / history / money</th>
<th>primacy, currency, decline &amp; obsolescence: family / history / money</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>legacy (effect)</td>
<td>legacy (effect)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legacy of failure</td>
<td>legacy of failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>given the long ~ at schools like Thomas Jefferson</td>
<td>given the long ~ at schools like Thomas Jefferson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legacy of love</td>
<td>legacy of love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they left a ~ wherever they went (eulogy)</td>
<td>they left a ~ wherever they went (eulogy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan's (industrial) legacy</td>
<td>Michigan's (industrial) legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>~ (England)</td>
<td>~ (England)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shipbuilding legacy</td>
<td>shipbuilding legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan's proud ~ (Lake Michigan)</td>
<td>Michigan's proud ~ (Lake Michigan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>troubled (racial) legacy</td>
<td>troubled (racial) legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a stark reminder of this city's ~ (St. Louis)</td>
<td>a stark reminder of this city's ~ (St. Louis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish legacy</td>
<td>Jewish legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>there is a rich ~ associated with boxing</td>
<td>there is a rich ~ associated with boxing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>industrial legacy</td>
<td>industrial legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester's ~ (England)</td>
<td>Manchester's ~ (England)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proud (shipbuilding) legacy</td>
<td>proud (shipbuilding) legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan's ~ (Lake Michigan)</td>
<td>Michigan's ~ (Lake Michigan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>racial legacy</td>
<td>racial legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a stark reminder of this city's troubled ~ (St. Louis)</td>
<td>a stark reminder of this city's troubled ~ (St. Louis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rich (Jewish) legacy</td>
<td>rich (Jewish) legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>there is a ~ associated with boxing</td>
<td>there is a ~ associated with boxing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carry on his (great) legacy</td>
<td>carry on his (great) legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a replacement will ~ (Supreme Court justice)</td>
<td>a replacement will ~ (Supreme Court justice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>embraced (for itself) the legacy</td>
<td>embraced (for itself) the legacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gazprom has ~ of Peter the Great (new skyscraper)</td>
<td>Gazprom has ~ of Peter the Great (new skyscraper)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>reputation: family / history / money transmission: family</th>
<th>reputation: family / history / money transmission: family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>legion (noun)</td>
<td>legion (noun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legions of poor</td>
<td>legions of poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karachi is a magnet for its ~</td>
<td>Karachi is a magnet for its ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>legions of other women</td>
<td>legions of other women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and so are ~ (“me too” movement)</td>
<td>and so are ~ (“me too” movement)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amount: military</td>
<td>amount: military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemon (noun)</td>
<td>lemon (noun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lemon</td>
<td>lemon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>my car is a ~</td>
<td>my car is a ~</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>failure, accident &amp; impairment: fruits &amp; vegetables</td>
<td>failure, accident &amp; impairment: fruits &amp; vegetables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flaws &amp; lack of flaws: fruits &amp; vegetables</td>
<td>flaws &amp; lack of flaws: fruits &amp; vegetables</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lend (lend a hand, etc.)</td>
<td>lend (lend a hand, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lent an ear</td>
<td>lent an ear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael unselfishly ~ to friends in need</td>
<td>Michael unselfishly ~ to friends in need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lend a hand</td>
<td>lend a hand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>can I ~ (help)</td>
<td>can I ~ (help)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>help &amp; assistance: money / verb</td>
<td>help &amp; assistance: money / verb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
length (go to any lengths, etc.)
go to any lengths
    the corporation will ~ to preserve the system (oil)

behavior: distance
restraint & lack of restraint: distance

lens (through a lens)
through many lenses
    immigration, ~

through that lens
    I see the world through that lens (being biracial)

through the new lens of the memes
    looked at ~, human beings…

through the lens of science
    experiences now better seen ~ (hearing "voices")

through the lens of a (negative) stereotype
    the threat of being viewed ~

through an ethnic lens
    he refused to view things ~ (Afghan military man)

through a "theological" lens
    he does not view the conflict ~ (Middle East)

perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology
lens (other)
lens onto the (shadowy) world
    his arrest provides a ~ of computer hackers

narrow lens
    presenting poetry through a ~ of immigration

novel and interesting lens
    he has found a ~ through which to view the conflict

attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology
perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology

leper (person)
modern-day lepers
    we treat them like ~ (fat people)

♦ In 2009, Egypt sought to close its last leper colony, the Abou Zaabal Leprosarium. The inhabitants of the colony protested, however. Many of them preferred to live in the colony rather than return home to their villages.

acceptance & rejection: health & medicine / person / society
society: health & medicine / person
person: society

lesson
learned my lesson
    I ~

    teach the kid a lesson
        maybe I want to ~

knowledge & intelligence: school & education
let down (fail)
let me down
    don’t ~

let us down
    don’t ~
    Leslie did not ~ (a basketball player)

let you down
    a book would never ~ (Amos Oz)

let a child down
    every case, an adult has ~ (under-age drinking)

let myself down
    if I lose this fight, I’ll feel like I ~

let my family down
    if I lose this fight, I’ll feel like I ~

let my team down
    if I lose this fight, I’ll feel like I ~

let my country down
    if I lose this fight, I’ll feel like I ~

adult has let a child down
    in every case, an ~ (under-age drinking)

dogs let him down
    each time, the ~ (fighting pit bulls)

success & failure: direction / verb
lethargic (adjective)
lethargic
    the government’s response has been ~ (earthquake relief)

lethargic display
    that was a ~ (a soccer game)

activity: health & medicine
flaws & lack of flaws: health & medicine
speed: movement
timeliness & lack of timeliness: movement

level (take something to a higher level)
took it to a whole new level
    yesterday he ~ (criticism of enemies)

Increase & decrease: direction
levelheaded (adj)
levelheaded girl
    Olga was a ~

character & personality: equilibrium & stability
level (from the ground level)
from the ground level
    we want to show the conflict as it looks ~
level (fairness)
on the level
this is not ~ (criminal case thrown out of court)
level of accountability
there needs to be a ~ throughout the system (justice)
level playing field
all we ask for is a ~ (tariffs)
flaws & lack of flaws: sports & games
level off (verb)
leveling off
the epidemic may be ~ (opioid abuse)
Increase & decrease: direction / verb
increase & lack of progress: mountains & hills / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: direction / verb
lever (levers of power, etc.)
levers of power
he holds the ~
diplomatic lever
we need to find the right ~ (encouraging democracy)
Russia’s (diplomatic) levers
Kim’s visit to Moscow is a reminder to Washington of ~
pulls the levers
she ~ of power in Congress and moves legislation
control & lack of control: mechanism
leverage (noun)
leverage over North Korea
China has the most ~
diplomatic leverage
Sadat gained ~ using oil as a political weapon (1973)
power: tools & technology
leverage (verb)
leverage its support
Israel should ~ in decisive talks with the Palestinians
power: tools & technology / verb
leviathan (noun)
leviathans
Britain’s two new aircraft carriers are ~
leviathan government
he wants to shrink our ~ (a politician)
leviathan state
they protested against the encroachments of a ~ (health)
intelligence leviathan
9/11 helped to create a sprawling ~
new leviathan
the intelligence services are the ~
become a leviathan
what started as a little startup has ~ (Facebook)
lei of God, symbolizing God's power.
size: allusion / Bible / creature / religion
license (noun)
license to publish
this is not a ~ anti-government stories
license to kill
fear or hatred are not a ~ (vigilante action)
interpret this as a license
editors should not ~ to publish anti-government stories
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: document / government
lie (lie low)
lying low
the gangs are ~
activity: standing, sitting & lying / verb
lie (lie ahead)
lies ahead
the work that ~ will be difficult
we are ready for the struggle that ~ (war)
ilies ahead
as we prepare for the elections that ~
his biggest challenges ~
future: direction / verb
lie down (verb)
lying down
don’t think I’ll take this ~
we weren’t going to take this ~ (Tiger Bay)
resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb
life (give life)
given new life to grievances
the uranium boom has ~ over land and power (Niger)
given new life to an old myth
the controversy has ~
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb
life (bring to life)
brings to life
the exhibit ~ the personalities behind the inventions
brings Copernicus to life
his new biography ~

bring (educational) exhibits to life
sound can ~ (natural-sound recordings)

brings the geography to life
"America from the Air" ~ (picture book)

brings history (really back) to life
it ~ (illuminating Hadrian's Wall with 500 beacons)

brings him (back) to life
she ~ sexually (character in film)

substance & lack of substance: death & life / verb
amelioration & renewal: death & life / verb

life (breathe life)
breathed life into Germany’s campaign
Reus ~ (important world-cup goal)
breathe life into the (Arab peace) initiative
the king's effort to ~
breathe life into the sport
he is trying to find novel ways to ~ (Indy car racing)

amelioration & renewal: breathing / death & life / verb

life (spring to life)
sprang to life
Mount Marapi ~ early this week (volcano)
the town ~ from nothing (oil)
sprang (vividly) to life
the issues ~ (heated discussion)

initiation: death & life / verb
activity: death & life / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / verb

life (from walks of life)
from all walks of life
we are ~, but we all love the same thing (hobbyists)
people ~ gathered (Tunisian protests)
friends from all walks of life
I have ~
people from all walks of life
he thinks ~ can relate to his cause
students from all walks of life
universities should reach out to ~
come from all walks of life
they ~ (to a funeral)

society: walking, running & jumping

life (in walks of life)
in all walks of life
Azerbaijanis ~ tend to... (opinions)

active in all walks of life
Muslims are ~ (US)

society: walking, running & jumping

life (walks of life)
different walks of life
you've got five people from completely ~ (D. C. Metro)
spreading into all walks of life
an epidemic of violence is ~

society: walking, running & jumping

life (container)
life
life is full of surprises
my ~ is empty
full life
she lead a ~

death & life: container

life (life is a building)
life
my ~ is in ruins
life crumbled
my ~
built a good life
we ~ together
put my life back together
I'm trying to ~

death & life: infrastructure

life (mechanism, etc.)
life of the product
this product is fully warranted for the ~
life of the (ReadNet) school
the brief ~ offers a stark lesson... (charter)
life of four hours
the active battery pack has an estimated ~
hailstone's life
in a ~ a long time is 10 to 20 minutes
battery life
laptop users list ~ as their No. 1 complaint
design life
many bridges are at the end of their ~ (collapses)
shelf life
extend the ~
the ~ of a product
toy life
read the directions for safer play and longer ~
half-life
the elimination ~ is 27 minutes (GHB)
the drug has a short onset of effect and a short ~
working life
equipment has outlived its predicted ~ (electric utility)
estimated life
the active battery pack has an ~ of four hours
extended-life (m)
~ batteries
predicted (working) life
equipment has outlived its ~ (electric utility)
brief life
the ~ of the ReadNet school offers a stark lesson
useful lives
downtown freeways have reached the end of their ~
at the end of their (design) life
many bridges are ~ (collapses)
end of their (useful) lives
downtown freeways have reached the ~
draw new life from old wells
as the industry improves its ability to ~ (oil)
take on a life of its own
an injustice can ~ (the law is an ass)
♦ "Every rock face breathes life with its lungs and emanates an energy that is proper only to itself." (The great Slovenian climber Tomaz Humar in "No Impossible Ways.")

mechanism: death & life
life (survival)
political life
he is fighting for his ~ (a politician)
coming back to life
the economy is ~
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life
lifeblood
lifeblood of the Gulf
the estuaries are the ~ (oil spill)
lifeblood of the country
the Congo River is the ~
lifeblood of the community
the river is the ~
lifeblood of our communities
small businesses are the ~ (commerce)
lifeblood of the (modern) economy
ergy is the ~ (California)
lifeblood of the region
the economic ~ is the river
lifeblood of the town
the sea was the ~ (fishing, etc.)
lifeblood of (so many) colleges
federal financial aid is the ~ and vocational schools
Iraq's (economic) lifeblood
pipelines funnel ~ (oil)
Zambia's (commercial) lifeblood
mining and sales businesses are ~
Sahel's lifeblood
the ~ has always been a seasonal monsoon
Mallory's lifeblood
mystery and danger were ~ (the climber)
commercial lifeblood
mining and sales businesses are Zambia's ~
economic lifeblood
the ~ of the region is the river
pipelines funnel Iraq's ~ (oil)
bases: blood / death & life
lifeline
songwriting has been a ~ (Todd Snider / bipolar, etc.)
in Somalia, piracy isn't just a business, it's a ~
lifeline for Egypt
the waters of the River Nile are a ~
lifeline for the (entire) Southwest
the Colorado River drainage basin, a ~
lifeline for (countless) villages
the Congo River is the ~ (Congo)
financial lifeline
Jet Airways is seeking a ~ to avoid collapse (debt)
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / water
life support (on life support)
on life support
Detroit is ~
the team is ~ (losing)
condition & status: death & life / health & medicine
decline: health & medicine
lift (noun)
temporary lift
caffeine may give you a ~, but it won't sustain you
feeling, emotion & effect: direction
lift (verb)
lifted our spirits
Sara ~
feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb
lift (amelioration)
lift the sanctions
they want to ~

amelioration & renewal: verb / weight

dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / weight

lifting (heavy lifting)

heavy lifting
  let us do the ~ (ad)

did the heavy lifting
  we ~, and they got the credit (disgusted)

work & duty: burden / weight

light (in light of)

in light of the difficulties
  ~ facing the Dukha and other traditional peoples

in light of the (uncovered) documents
  an appeal ~ (trial)

in light of (yesterday's) incident

in light of the revelation
  how they would pursue the case ~

in light of (last week's) tragedy

perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark

light (shining light)

shining light
  co-workers described Nina as a ~ (died)

superlative: light & dark

light (guiding light)

guiding lights of the continent
  the ~ are dull indeed (leaders)

direction: journeys & trips / light & dark

light (in a light)

in a different light
  he saw the world ~
  they began to view him ~

in a negative light
  tenants see him ~ (landlord)

perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark

light (come to light)

came to light
  the scope of medical errors ~ when…

come to light
  new evidence has ~

came to light two years ago
  the problem ~

evidence has come to light
  new ~

problem came to light
  the ~ two years ago

appearance & disappearance: light & dark / verb

searching & discovery: light & dark / verb

light (bring something to light)

brought to light
  new findings have been ~ from the old data

appearance & disappearance: light & dark

light (shed light)

shed (no immediate) light on the (June 5) abduction
  his arrest ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark

concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / verb

light (shine a light)

shine a light on the abuse
  what he did was ~ (prison guard)

shine a light on the women
  we must ~ who have brought knowledge into the world

attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / verb

light (make light of something)

made light of the (whole) situation
  he ~ (pressure)

substance & lack of substance: weight / verb

lighten (lighten things up, etc.)

lightened the mood
  the good news ~

lighten things up
  things are getting a little heavy, let's ~

amelioration & renewal: verb / weight

feeling, emotion & effect: verb / weight

light bulb

light bulb
  a ~ went off in his head and he… (good idea)

light bulb in kids' heads
  we hope to turn on a ~ about science

light-bulb moment
  you've heard of a ~, this was a spotlight moment
  these ~s feel as if they happen in a flash but…

light bulb went off
a ~ in his head and he… (good idea)
turn on a light bulb
we hope to ~ in kids' heads about science

idea: light & dark
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark

light-hearted (adjective)
seemed light-hearted
she ~ during the re-enactment (of a crime)

feeling, emotion & effect: weight
feeling, emotion & effect: heart
heart: weight

lighthouse
lighthouses in the storm
at times like that, people are looking for ~ (downturn)
direction: boat / infrastructure / light & dark / sea
protection & lack of protection: boat
danger: boat / sea

lightly (take something lightly)
take this issue lightly
nobody should ~

substance & lack of substance: weight

lightning (adjective)
lightning advance
the ~ northward continues (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
lightning drive
the ~ to reach Baghdad (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
lightning (offensive) operation
one key to a ~ was making sure…(military)
lightning speed
the catastrophe developed at ~ (submarine)
color graphics downloaded at ~
the US broke again with ~ (soccer team)
the risks of a war that began with ~
the ~ of modern technology
♦ A lightning bolt in Minnesota killed 47 cattle under a willow tree.
♦ An "unprecedented" lightning storm in California sparked more than 840 wildfires.
speed: lightning / storm

lightning (fate)
lightning
~ can strike twice
lightning struck
everything was going good, and then ~
♦ The Malay who had brought Tamb’ Itam and the girl to Samarang was there too. ‘Not so angry as many,’ he said to me, but struck with a great awe and wonder at the ‘suddenness of men’s fate, which hangs over their heads like a cloud charged with thunder.’ (Lord Jim by Joseph Conrad.)
fate, fortune & chance: electricity / lightning / sky / storm

lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.)
hip-swinging bolt of lightning
he was a ~ (Johnny Hallyday)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / lightning / storm

lightning bolt (comprehension)
lightning-bolt moment
it was a ~ when I knew what I wanted to do (be a singer)
comprehension & incomprehension: electricity / lightning / storm

lightning rod
lightning rod
the university is a ~ for people with political statements
Al Jazeera has always been a ~ (politics)
lightning rod for (public) anger
he became the ~ over the disaster (replaced)
lightning rod for criticism
he became a ~ (a baseball manager)
lightning rod for a (bitter political) debate
the issue became a ~ over whether…
became a lightning rod
the case ~ for outrage in the community (bullying)
♦ Many clerics opposed the use of lightning rods on church steeples, in spite of the fact that the steeples attracted lightning that caused fires. In 1767, the church of San Nazaro in Brescia (Brescia) was hit by lightning 17 years after Benjamin Franklin invented the lightning rod. Inside, several thousand pounds of gunpowder were being stored. The blast destroyed not only the church but one-sixth of the city and killed over 3,000 people.
attraction & repulsion: electricity / lightning

light show
celestial light show
the Leonid meteor shower, that November ~…
resemblance: theater

light up (verb)
lights up the stage
she ~
superlative: light & dark / verb

lightweight (noun)
intellectual lightweight
she's an ~

substance & lack of substance: boxing / weight

light year
light years ahead
she was ~ of her peers
light years away
he is ~ from the keeper he used to be (decline)

**distance: astronomy**

**extent & scope: astronomy**

**Lilliputian (adjective)**

Lilliputian scale
  - photographing life on a ~ (insects)

land of Lilliputians
  - Tiger Woods has been a giant in a ~ (golf star)

♦ The allusion is to the satire *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift, which also contributed *Brobdingnagian* to the language.

**size: allusion**

**limb (go out on a limb)**

go out on a limb
  - French climbers are notorious for being willing to ~
go out on a limb to hide
  - they are willing to ~ him (a terrorist)

willing to go out on a limb
  - they are ~ to hide him (a terrorist)

**fate, fortune & chance: tree / verb**

**limbo (in limbo)**

in limbo
  - plans are ~
  - the children are ~ (schools destroyed by earthquake)
  - his fate is ~ (general in trouble with president)
  - the British Government is ~ (hung Parliament)
  - he has been ~ waiting for his case to be resolved
  - we are always ~ and we just don’t know...

in health-care limbo
  - certain of the sick find themselves ~

in legal limbo
  - they are in ~ (spouses of terrorists in Syria)

stuck in limbo
  - the results of the first vote were ~ (votes stolen)

remain in limbo
  - the results ~ (election)

remains in limbo
  - Boeing ~ as it figures out its next steps

left people in limbo
  - failure to agree on regulations has ~

left the (British) people in limbo
  - the endless negotiations have ~ (Brexit)

**situation: container / religion**

**action, inaction & delay: religion**

**environment: religion**

**certainty & uncertainty: religion**

**progress & lack of progress: religion**

**limelight (in the limelight)**

in the limelight
  - it takes a special ability to be ~ and then be invisible

moment in the limelight
  - he had a ~, 30 years later
  - he had his most significant ~ a dozen years ago

back in the limelight
  - he is ~ (fashion)

basked in the limelight
  - they ~ (officials)

stay in the limelight
  - he would do anything to ~

spend three weeks in the limelight
  - after vanishing for 30 years, he has ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark**

**limit (push the limits, etc.)**

pushed the limits
  - she has ~ too far (nudity)

**behavior: boundary / verb**

restraint & lack of restraint: boundary / verb

**limits (push something to its limits)**

pushed to its limits
  - the agency has been ~

**survival, persistence & endurance: boundary / verb**

**difficulty, easiness & effort: boundary / verb**

**restraint & lack of restraint: boundary / verb**

**constraint & lack of constraint: boundary / verb**

**limp (verb)**

limping along
  - the US economy is ~

**progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running & jumping / verb**

condition & status: movement / walking, running & jumping / verb

**limp (noun)**

limp
  - if there is a trend afoot, it has a distinct ~

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping**

**linchpin**

linchpin of medicine
  - nursing’s roles as a ~ goes largely unreported

linchpins of the (US) strategy
  - a strong national army and police force are the ~ (war)

**bases / importance & significance: mechanism**

♦ A linchpin is a fastener used on hitches and axels. In the case of axels, it prevents the wheels from falling off.
“Nurses are the linchpins of hospitals, and when we lose them the wheels of medicine fall off.”

**line (end of the line, etc.)**

end of the line
- it’s not the ~, it’s the beginning of the line (rehab)

end of the line for him
- this is the ~ (arrested for murder)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: line / train**

**line (a hard line, etc.)**

tough line
- taking a ~ on enforcement

conservative line
- the ~ that gay civil unions threaten...

hard-line
- China’s ~ policy
- Trump’s ~ rhetoric

**position, policy & negotiation: line**

**line (division)**

lines of class, race and education
- domestic violence crosses all ~

 caste lines
- the public taps are divided along ~ (India)

color line
- the ~ is a fundamental U.S. problem

company lines
- collaboration is occurring across ~

gender lines
- when issues divide along ~

poverty line
- the minimum wage is below the ~
- living below the ~

sex line
- the class divided along ~s (like or dislike of author)

ethnic lines
- groups divided along ~

ideological lines
- the court’s ruling broke along ~ (Supreme Court)

racial lines
- threatened to divide our nation along ~ (hate crime)
- there’s a distinct blurring of the ~ here (South Africa)

thin blue line
- the ~ (policemen)

blurring of the (racial) lines
- there’s a distinct ~ here (South Africa)

variations across (geographic or demographic) lines
- ~ (a survey)

**economic and educational lines**
- typically breaks down among ~

**ethnic and class lines**
- the drug is crossing ~ (Ecstasy)

**gender and cultural lines**
- when applied across ~

**geographic or demographic lines**
- variations across ~ (a survey)

**lines are drawn**
- the ~ (nomination fight / politics)

**crossing (ethnic and class) lines**
- the drug is ~ (Ecstasy)

**crosses all lines**
- domestic violence ~ of class, race and education

 crossed (party) lines
- Democrats ~

**cuts across (ideological) lines**
- the movement now ~ (animal welfare)

**broke along (ideological) lines**
- the court’s ruling ~ (Supreme Court)

**divided along (racial) lines**
- a Southern society that was still sharply ~

**divided along (ethnic) lines**
- groups ~

- Actual lines include such things as picket lines and security lines.

**division & connection: boundary / line**

**line (categories)**

**line between life and death**
- the ~ proved a thin one (victims of terror attack)

**line between abled and disabled**
- he has erased the ~ (Oscar Pistorius)

**line between news and entertainment**
- he straddles the ~ (TV personality)

**line between video games and movies**
- realism blurs the ~...

**line between observer and participant**
- the ~ (bombings / Iraq)

**line between saint and sinner**
- there is sometimes a fine or blurry ~

**line between martyrdom and suicide**
- she explores the ~ (author)

**line between the real and the unreal**
- the ~ in popular culture seems ever more blurred

**line between teaching and criticizing**
- the delicate ~ (coaching)

**line between making a point and belaboring it**
there is a fine ~

line between reality and play-acting
the ~ is not clear in both movies and wrestling

line between normal and abnormal
the ~ (psychiatry)

delicate line
the ~ between teaching and criticizing (coaching)

fine line
there is a ~ between making a point and belaboring it

fine or blurry line
there is sometimes a ~ between saint and sinner

line has (gradually) blurred
but the ~ as…

lines are blurring
the ~ (between hotels and Airbnb)

blur the line
some writers ~ (between genre and literature)

blurs the line
realism ~ between video games and movies…

erased the line
he has ~ between abled and disabled (Oscar Pistorius)

straddles the line
he ~ between news and entertainment (TV personality)

division & connection: boundary / line

line (out of line)
a little out of line
I think you are ~ here…

behavior: boundary / line

line (finish line)

finish line of retirement
deep into the rat race, far from the ~
push the bill across the finish line
they are hoping to ~ (politics)

starting, going, continuing & ending: line / sports & games

line (battle lines, etc.)
battle lines are forming
the ~ in the dispute

battle lines are hardening
the ~ over the issue (abortion)
the ~ as the rulers dig in (Middle East protests)

battle lines are being drawn
the ~ (politics)

battle lines have been drawn
the ~ (liberals versus conservative)

last line

habeus corpus is the ~ of defense, a Hail Mary (law)

conflict: military

line (over the line)
go over the line
"Anything goes… As long as you don't ~ (Las Vegas)

stepped over the line
some people believe the group has ~ (ELF)

behavior: boundary / line

line (cross the line)
crossed the line
her comments ~ (racer complains about pit crew)
crossed a (constitutional) line
the suit argues the law ~

behavior: boundary / line / verb

line (tread a line, etc.)
treading a (delicate) line
the government is ~ between…

walk a (really) fine line
the government has to ~ (indictment)

walks a (very) fine line
the indictment ~ here (case against Assange)

fate, fortune & chance: boundary / line / verb

fate, fortune & chance: walking, running & jumping

line (on the line)
on the line
the season is ~ on Sunday (a sports team)

fate, fortune & chance: line

line (toe a line, etc.)
treading a (delicate) line
the government is ~ between…

follow the (I.M.F.’s) line
countries that ~ but still fail to grow…

parroted the (official) line
he ~ about enemy losses
toed the (Republican) line
he has ~ (a politician)
toes the line
not everyone ~
toe the line
the judges refused to ~ (dispute with president)

unanimity & consensus: line / verb

line (government line, etc.)

company line
researchers toe the ~
government line
  the ~ about Waco is being challenged

party line
  he is not touting a ~

official line
  he parroted the ~ about enemy losses

sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: line
line (red line)
red line
  this is a ~ that should not be crossed (national defense)
  a ~ for us is if we see chemical weapons (diplomacy)
  the use of chemical weapons would be a "~" that…

behavior: boundary / line
line up (verb)
lined up to call
  Republicans have ~ on him to quit (politics)

unanimity & consensus: line / verb
linger (verb)
lingers in our minds
  each of us has a single meal that ~
linger for 20 hours
  the Predator can ~ over a battlefield (military)
anxiety lingered
  ~ long after the threat had passed
effects will linger
  the psychological ~...

hope lingers
  ~ for youngster's return (missing)
questions linger
  he was released from prison, but ~...

storm lingers
  the longer the ~, the longer we will see impacts

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement
incoming

link (weak link)
weakest link in the (global) chain
  you're only as secure as the ~ of information (Internet)

weak link on the team
  he's a ~

strength & weakness: chain
lion (strength and weakness)
old lion
  the kid is getting his shot against the ~ (boxing)

strength & weakness: animal / lion / person
lion (courage)

lion's heart
  I have a ~ (winning boxer after hard match)
liberal lion
  they were ~s of a past generation (Supreme Court)
courage of a lion
  she had the ~ (Sicilian journalist slain in Afghanistan)

♦ The jackal is a lion in his own country!
♦ It is better to die like a lion than live like a dog!
♦ It is better to be a live dog than a dead lion!

courage & lack of courage:
person: animal / lion

lion's share
lion's share of the attention
  a few books get the ~
lion's share of the burden
  the US is willing to do the ~, but we can't do it alone
lion's share of the credit
  he deserves the ~ (coach)
lion's share of the rewards
  they reap the ~
deserves the lion's share
  he ~ of the credit (coach)
get the lion's share
  a few books ~ of the attention

amount: animal / food & drink / lion
lip (speech)

lip
their ~s are sealed down at City Hall (trying to get info)
his ~s are not sealed
loose lips
~ sink ships (wartime)

speech: mouth

lip service (pay lip service, etc.)
paying lip service
can you really address the issues rather than ~ (a judge)
give lip service to cooperating
they ~ (war against terrorism)
pays lip service to its commitment
Europe only ~ to the nuclear deal (Iran)
paid lip service to it
every supervisor at least ~ (change)
pay lip service to (fiscal) responsibility
politicians ~
pay lip service to the rules
most at least ~ (politics)
symbolic, lip service, or pandering
is it ~ to get the black vote (reparations)
♦ "I'll try...,” “I'll get back to you....” “We'll see....” “I guess....,” “Your guess is as good as mine...,” “I'll bear it in mind,” “I hear what you say...” (Paying lip service.)
♦ "I think it's absolutely fine, I do. “I think it's great.” “I have no problem with it whatsoever.” (Comments about a gay marriage by a politician that some considered to be paying lip service to LGBT rights.)
♦ "We should have that conversation; We need to have that conversation...” (Excellent ways not to say yes or no, to make no commitment, while at the same time sounding sympathetic.)
♦ “You're not gonna die, you're gonna be fine.” (Reservoir Dogs.)
♦ “Good luck with that!!”
♦ Nasreddin decided to become a judge and make some money. Ali came to him one day to complain about Saleh. Nasreddin listened and said, “You're right, you're right, you're right.” Ali gave money to Nasreddin and left happy. Then Saleh came in to complain about Ali. Nasreddin listened and said, “You're right, you're right, you're right.” Saleh gave money to Nasreddin and left happy. Nasreddin's wife was not happy. “How can you say Ali is right, and then say Saleh is right,” she exclaimed indignantly. “You're right, you're right, you're right,” replied Nasreddin.

speech: mouth

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: speech

lipstick (appearance)
lipstick
no matter how much ~ you put on a pig, it's still a pig

appearance & reality: materials & substances

lit (lit up)
lit up with (anti-aircraft) fire
the sky ~

activity: light & dark / verb

litany (noun)
litany of charges
he is facing a ~
litany of errors
let’s go through the ~ (poor crisis management)

amount: religion

litmus test
litmus test for (Russia's) democracy
the West sees the trial as a ~
litmus test for (EU) membership
they insist on cooperation as a ~
diplomatic litmus test
officials caution against turning issues into ~

evidence / experimentation: chemistry

littered (verb)
littered with (environmental) time bombs
Central and Eastern Europe are ~

configuration: waste

live (location)
living
so where did you find this comet, where is it ~
lives here
the Sugar Bowl ~ (ad for TV network)
lives in the indictments
that information ~
lives in different language
the subjunctive still ~ in quite strong ways (not in English)
live at the top
banners that ~ of YouTube's homepage (expensive ads)
living on YouTube
some of the clips were ~ months ago
lives in his archive
he wrote a memo to file that ~ in which he...
live beneath Western Front
World War I munitions still ~ (NPR)

avalanche lives
we climb where the ~

heat lives
that's where the ~ (the seeds in chillies)
♦ “The enemy stands 602 feet tall and weighs 15 million tons.” (Shasta Dam versus the Winnemen Wintu group, which is opposed to making the dam higher.)

location: house
place: house / death & life

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 390 of 982
live (alive)
live and ongoing
it’s still ~ in the field (Extreme Ice Survey)
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life
condition & status: death & life
live (live with something)
live with it
so I learned to ~
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life
live up to (something)
live up to the commitments
we expect the Japanese to ~ they have made
live up to expectations
many athletes do not ~ (behavior problems)
live up to those expectations
the training they go through to in order to ~
lived up to (family) expectations
he never ~ (a drifter)
live up to (fans’) expectations
he may never ~ but... (player with big salary)
lived up to the hopes
the claims for brain imaging have not ~ (psychiatry)
live up to the hype
the fight did not ~ that it received (boxing)
live up to its (professed) ideals
an American failure to ~ (New Orleans hurricane)
live up to the image
it’s harder for him to ~ the public has of him (a poet)
live up to the (gangsta) image
there are those who work to ~
live up to their obligations
both countries should ~ under the agreement
lived up to its promise
if Pakistan ~ on infiltration, New Delhi would…
live up to you (campaign) promise
do you think it's so difficult to ~
lived up to (longstanding) promises
he has not ~ to tribal groups (Brazil)
lived up to their reputation
Bayer Leverkusen, who ~ (soccer team)
lived up to his responsibilities
he has not always ~
live up to my own standards
I have failed to ~ (an abusive coach)
live up to his own standards
he failed to ~
live up to its (own stated) values
the US has failed to ~ (secret prisons, etc.)
live up to their vows
a majority who took the pledge did not ~ (virginity)
live up to its words
we are simply asking BP/Amoco to ~ (environment)
lived up to its expectations or talent
the team never ~
live up to the conditions of the agreement
local officials would not ~ (Red Cross program)
failed to live up to
the US has ~ its own stated values (secret prisons, etc.)
commitment & determination: direction / verb
responsibility: direction / verb
live on (verb)
live on
there is no doubt that his books will ~ (VS Naipaul)
lived on
the bomber was dead, but the threat ~ (unexploded bombs)
starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life / verb
live wire (person)
live wire
she was a ~ (outspoken, passionate, talented, dedicated, etc.)
character & personality: electricity / person
livid (adjective)
livid that
she is ~ her husband is dating…
feeling, emotion & effect: blood / color
living (adjective)
living document
the Constitution is a ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life
load (work)
load of a (college) professor
he's teaching double the normal ~ (adjunct)
full load of classes
it may be hard to juggle a ~ and a job
course load
I adjusted to the new ~
workload
teachers complained about the increased ~
teaching and research load
  faculty members can reduce the ~ by half

parenting load
  she has been carrying the full ~

extra load
  the types of ~ that we are placing on teachers

full load
  it may be hard to juggle a ~ of classes and a job

full (parenting) load
  she has been carrying the ~

normal load
  he's teaching double the ~ of a college professor (adjunct)

bear (some of) the load
  build a new airport to ~ (Chicago)

carrying the (full parenting) load
  she has been ~

handle the load
  the system can barely ~ (airline travel)

work & duty: burden / weight

loan shark
  he borrowed the money from a ~ (TCN)

predation: animal / shark

lock (lock something away)
locked it away
  it was embarrassing, so I ~ (sexually assaulted)

concealment & lack of concealment: key / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: key / verb

lock (under lock and key)
kept under lock and key
  the report was meant to be ~ (Catholic Church)

concealment & lack of concealment: key

locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
locked in a (custody) battle
  they are ~

locked in a (seesaw) battle
  they are ~ for the strategic city

locked in a (fierce and noisy) debate
  Tunisians are ~ about the role of Islam in politics

locked in a (bitter) dispute
  they are ~ over Kashmir

configuration: doors & thresholds
division & connection: doors & thresholds
attachment: infrastructure

locker (noun)
  Web locker (m)
    he is a prominent ~ operator (file sharing)

computer: container

lockstep (in lockstep)
in lockstep
  they were all ~, working together (Boeing, FAA)
march in lockstep
  climate and carbon dioxide clearly ~ (Antarctic ice)
work in "lockstep"
  Obama said the US would ~ with Israel to prevent…
working in lockstep
  Obama is ~ with the Israelis

unanimity & consensus: line / military / walking, running & jumping

lodestar
lodestar of my life
  Mother Teresa was the ~

Taliban’s spiritual lodestar
  his involvement was minimal, yet he remained the ~
  (Mullah Omar)

♦ A lodestar refers to the North Star, or to stars that help people to find
  the North Star. As such, it relates to direction and following.

♦ Somebody sent an anonymous op-ed article to the New York Times.
  The writer included the word “lodestar.” People interested in “outing” the
  anonymous article focused on that “rarely used word” to try to determine
  who sent it. (“Does ‘lodestar’ guide us to anti-Trump op-ed author?” BBC,
  6 September 2018.)

direction: astronomy / journeys & trips

lodestone
lodestone for migrants
  Angola has become a ~ (2009 / from Congo)

♦ A lodestone is a piece of naturally magnetic rock, once used in
  primitive compasses for roughly indicating the direction of north.

direction: astronomy / journeys & trips / tools & technology

lofty (adjective)
lofty rhetoric
  he is known for his ~ (a politician)

achievement, recognition & praise: height

logjam
logjam
  coat checks and valet parking can become ~s (malls)
logjam of traffic
  he looks out onto an endless ~
logjam on death row
  the execution does not signal a break in the ~
logjam in Washington
there is such a ~ (politics)

logjam (with Congress) over the president's plan
he seeks a way to break the ~

data logjam
limited storage media has created a scientific ~

bureaucratic logjam
despite the ~s the Army faced in stepping up…

ideological logjam
progress has been stuck in an ~ (warming)

legislative logjam
squabbling could lead to a ~ (politics)

partisan logjam
the White House seeks to break the ~ (politics)

political logjam
the ~ must be dislodged

break in the logjam
the execution does not signal a ~ on death row
not everyone is happy about the ~ (politics)

polarization and logjam
ey they talked about the ~ in Congress

break the logjam
we must ~ (politics)
Islamic leaders are working to ~ (immunizations)

♦ “The Great Log Jam” by Stewart Edward White is a terrific account of an actual log jam. It appeared in Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly, Vol. LII No. 3 in July, 1901, and it is an account of the Great Log Jam of 1883 on the Grand River in Michigan. It was perhaps the largest logjam in the history of logging.

♦ What profession was associated with marking hammers, peaveys, pike poles, and wanigans? (Answer: old-style logging and log drives on rivers.)

obstacles & impedance: river

loiter (verb)

loiter in the sky
drones can ~ for several hours and spy… (warfare)

loiter (in the sky) for several hours
drones can ~ and spy (warfare)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb

lone wolf

lone-wolf attack
it's difficult to protect against ~s (terrorism)

lone wolf individual
a dozen ~s with ties to the group have been caught

racist "lone wolves"
Obama has enraged ~

society: animal / wolf
predation: animal / wolf

long (time)

long nights in the stir
I've had some ~, that was the longest (Shawshank Redemption)

time: distance
long-run (adjective)

long-run impact
the ~ on the world economy

time: distance / walking, running & jumping

long shot

long shot
the horse is a ~ to win

fate, fortune & chance: weapon

look (analysis)

look at Chernobyl
if you ~ you will find...

look at Poland
so let's ~ (talk show)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: eye / verb

look (look back)

looked back
I switched girlfriends and never ~

look back
was there a low point when you ~ (addiction)

look back on her accomplishments
we ~ (tribute to woman who died)

look back on your life
sometimes you ~ and wonder..

look back through rose-tinted glasses
it is easy to ~ and miss problematic details (history)

past & present: direction / eye / verb

look (it looks like, etc.)

it looks like he is heading
~ for a fourth consecutive term (parliamentary election)

future: eye

look (look for)

looking for how
we're really ~ we can improve...

looking for answers
we are ~

looking for excuses
I think you're ~

looking for love
Don was online ~, like millions of other men...

look for opportunities
~ to develop new skills...

look for patterns
~ in your preferences (job hunt)

looking for (better) opportunities
they are always ~ (jobs)

looking for sympathy
the amputee is not ~ (an amputee)

looking for trouble
if you ask me, he was ~

looking for something
they meander about, ~ to do (kids)

looking for something new
women are always ~ in cosmetics

started looking
the four partners ~ for help

searching & discovery: eye / verb

look (look forward to something, etc.)

look towards smaller parties
he can now ~ to build a government (election winner)

look forward to going
I don’t ~ to work tomorrow...

looking forward to going
Andrea was ~ on holiday...

look forward to hearing
I ~ if he made it to Katahdin (AT)

look forward to seeing
I ~ you in Detroit

looking forward to seeing
he was ~ his wife and children

looking forward to spending
he was ~ time with his grandchildren

looked forward to watching
she ~ the World Cup (marine in Iraq)

look forward to the class
students should ~ (teacher training)

look forward to and accept
some people ~ death (nursing)

future: direction / eye / verb

look (look into something)
looking into what
is anybody ~ happened or...

looking into whether
they are ~ foam produced... (Columbia disaster)

investigators are ~ the attack was...

federal agents are ~ he violated...

looking into (food) allergies
my son has become a biter and we are ~

looking into the case
they agreed to ~ of Amy Wroe Bechtel (Vidocq Society)

looking into the complaint
authorities are ~ of a Saudi camel owner who...

look into a (horrible) crime
the soldiers were asked to ~ (Iraq atrocity)

look into ecoterrorism
the FBI said it would ~ as a possible motive

looking into evidence
is the White House ~ that American POWs may...

look into (Baluch) grievances
committes set up last year to ~ (Pakistan)

look into it
this is the first I’ve heard of it, I’ll ~

we’ll ~, thanks for bring it to my attention...

look into the matter
he’ll ~

looking into the possibility
officials were ~ that tribal leaders had...

looking into the (various) theories
engineers ~ (plane crash)

look into ways
or you could ~ of covering it up with destroying it

look into transferring
maybe you should ~ to another school

investigators are looking into
~ who received traffic tickets in... (murder)

searching & discovery: eye / verb

look (look the other way)

looked the other way
corrupt officials ~ (contract)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye / verb

look (look up to somebody )

look up to my father as a role model
I’ve always been able to ~

looked up to Bruce Lee as a role model
he ~ (the martial arts star)

looked up to him in high school
I ~

looked up to them all my life
I've ~ (Native America)
looked up to him ever since
he flew in space, and the US has ~ (John Glenn)
admiration & contempt: eye / height / verb
look (look down on something)
look down on me
I am suffering every day when people ~ (immigrant)
admiration & contempt: eye / gesture / height / verb
look up (verb)
looking up
Rhyl's image is ~ (English town)
New York's economy is ~ (post 9/11)
things are ~, progress is being made
progress & lack of progress: direction / eye / verb
loom (loom large, etc.)
looms large over Wisconsin
the president still ~ (elections)
loom over the game
those larger issues ~ (football and CTE)
presence & absence: height / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: height / verb
superiority & inferiority: height / verb
loop (in the loop)
in the loop
we make sure you are ~ at every step (financial planning)
knowledge & intelligence: shape
loophole (noun)
loophole
until the ~ is closed…
legal loophole
many believe in wriggled through a ~ (Rubin Carter case)
exploring that loophole
unions are exploiting ~ (politics and money)
used a loophole
he ~ to keep practicing (a bad doctor)
♦ Defenders fire weapons through loopholes in a fortification.
protection & lack of protection: fortification / military
loose (let loose)
let loose
after silence on the issue, he ~ in attacks on his enemies
(politics)
constraint & lack of constraint: hand / speech / verb
loose ends
tied up loose ends
I put my affairs in order, ~
tie up some loose ends
in this last episode, I’ll try to ~ (podcast)
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: rope
loosen (verb)
loosened their grip
tradition, ideology, and religion have ~ in the West
control & lack of control: hand / verb
loot (verb)
loot the assets
eyou could no longer ~ of the Venezuelan people
taking & removing: crime / verb
Lord of the Flies
Lord of the Flies
you’ve got ~ if you take a small group of young men...(Lords of Chaos)
behavior / oppression / violence: allusion
lord over (verb)
lorded over his (C.E.O.) son
the father still ~ (corporation)
lorded over their slaves
the plantation owners ~
power: royalty / verb
oppression: royalty / verb
lose (extinction)
lose the big apes
in 30 years we could ~ from central Africa
losing their cultural heritage
Nigerians are ~ (indigenous languages versus English)
lose Lake Baikal
the warnings of scientists who say "we will ~"
appearance & disappearance: death & life / verb
lose (through death)
lost him
my dad loved this place and then I ~ (father died)
lost one of its own
the police force has ~
♦ He is no longer with us.
euphemism: death & life
lose out (verb)
lost out to home refrigerators
block ice ~
competition: sports & games / verb
he has been ~

decline: direction

low (lying low)

lying low
he is ~ over fears for his safety

attention, scrutiny & promotion: height
pursuit, capture & escape: animal / height / hunting

lubricant

social lubricant
alcohol is a crucial ~ (Great Britain)

amelioration & renewal: mechanism

lukewarm (adjective)

lukewarm to Trump
the state was ~ but has since converted

allegiance, support & betrayal: temperature
feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
eagerness & reluctance: temperature

luminary (noun)

luminaries
where the president and other ~ sat… (graduation)
establishment luminaries
she attracted ~ to the board (Kissinger, Shultz, Mattis, etc.)

achievement, recognition & praise: light & dark
superlative: light & dark

lung (atmosphere)

lungs of Southeast Asia
it is sometimes called the ~ (Borneo and its forests)
planet's "lungs"
the Amazon is considered to be part of the ~
Mumbai’s last green lung
the Aarey forest is often referred to as ~

biodiversity: atmosphere / breathing / epithet / lung

lurch (verb)

lurched from scandal to scandal
Facebook has ~ over the past months

equilibrium: verb / walking, running & jumping

lure (verb)

lured him out of the bar
they ~ and robbed him

attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting / verb

lure (noun)

lure of the Himalayas
the ~ is still with Tomaz Humar (climber)
lure of (modern) conveniences
the ~, steady jobs and a cash economy (to the Inuit)
lure of the north
the ~ is hard to overcome (migrants)
lure of the (majestic) peaks
the ~ pulled him back (Montana Blackfoot)
lure of sex
he used the ~ to get athletes to his club
lure of the summit
the ~ proved stronger than a fear of death (climbing)
lure of the water
the ~ was too much (drowning incident)
lure of wealth
the ~ provides powerful incentives (capitalism)
lure of easy money
the ~ sparked a land boom (Everglades)
lure of multiple majors
at many universities, the ~ has become so strong
lure of cheap homesteads and easy money
the ~ sparked a land boom

lure of investing
for many, the ~ is the thrill of uncertain reward (stocks)
♦ What do you have if you have a Damsel Dredger, a Braided Bitch, a Crystal Rubber Bugger, a Pulsating Caddis, or a Gold Beaded Poopah? (Trout flies for fly fishing.)
♦ In the southern Appalachians, hunters will hang a ham from a tree on the crest of the ridge to lure bears to the scent. They will return to the bait with dogs, which will follow the scent of the bear. Such baiting is illegal.

attraction & repulsion: fish / hunting
pursuit, capture & escape: fish / hunting

lurk (verb)
lurking
if you've had a heart attack, another could be ~
how many quakes are ~ in unknown faults
lurks in every direction
danger ~
lurk in every shadow
for some people, dangers ~ (anxiety)
terrorism lurks
~ in small towns and rural areas (as well as cities)
predation: animal / verb

lurking
lurking danger
he was seized by a gut feeling of ~
predation: animal

lust (noun)
lust for gold
the word lust has wider application: ~, lust for power
lust for power
he has been described as having a ~ and money
the word lust has wider application: lust for gold, ~
lust for war
his brutality and ~ (a Marine)
lust for power and money
he has been described as having a ~
curb their lust
politicians need to ~ for contributions

wants, needs, hopes & goals: sex
luster
luster of (unlimited) promise
he arrived in Washington with the ~ (a politician)
lost its luster
but in the 1960s, Detroit ~
reputation: light & dark
lynching (media lynching, etc.)
victim of a (media) lynching
his lawyer claims he is the ~
judgment: history / violence
oppression: history / violence

machine (publicity machine, etc.)
anthem machine
George M. Cohan was an ~ (songwriting)
etertainment machine
Hollywood is an ~ constantly hungry for new talent
meat machines
stop treating animals like ~ (factory farms)
publicity machine
as the ~ rolled forward (for a film)
Scream Machine
we put in just below ~ (Green Gorge / kayaking)
war machine
factory workers for the ~
the diamond trade fuels the ~ (Angola)
well-oiled machine
the team is a ~ (sports)
his administration is not a ~ (politics)
killing machine
the hydraulic below a dam is a ~ (kayaking, swimmers)
the crocodile is an efficient ~
when let outside, the typical house cat turns into a ~
marketing machine
  the league's ~ (N.B.A)

money-making machine
  he was once a ~ worth $400 million (a boxer)
cog in the (Norwegian pedagogical) machine
  he thinks of himself as a ~

creation & transformation / functioning / operation:
  mechanism
creation & transformation / functioning / operation:
  manufacturing

machine (sex machine)
  sex machine
    I told them he was a ~ (my boyfriend)
  sex: mechanism

machinery (noun)
  machinery of law enforcement
    the ~
operation / functioning: mechanism

mad (crazy)
  mad scramble
    organizers start the ~…(international festival)
  baseball-mad (m)
    the crowd of ~ Habaneros (Cuba)
  business-mad
    Hanoi is brash and ~
celebrity-mad
  a ~ world
  football-mad (m)
    ~ F.S.U.
hockey-mad (m)
    in ~ Canada
  soccer mad
    Turks are ~
status-mad (m)
  ~ consumers
totally mad
  it’s mad, ~ (running with bulls at Pamplona)

enthusiasm: health & medicine / mental health
madness (enthusiasm)
  March Madness
    college basketball fans look forward to ~

enthusiasm: health & medicine / mental health
madness (in a maelstrom)
  in a maelstrom of (negative) attention
    he has found himself ~ (an athlete)

amount & effect: sea

maelstrom (other)
  swept up in this maelstrom
    savings are ~ (electronic stock exchanges)

amount & effect: sea

magic (magic bullet, etc.)
magic bullet
  nothing yet has proved a ~ (against oak-killing spore)
magic cure
  there is no ~ (for kid fire-setting behavior)
magic formula
  there is no ~, but try… (predicting NCAA winner)
  we don't have a ~ for predicting wildfires
magic wand
  I wish I could wave a ~ and make it all better
  there’s no ~ (to fix aging Chicago El system)
magic word
  the ~s are "please," "thank you" (adult to 3-year-old)
  there are no ~s to motivate every student (a teacher)
  "I want to speak to a supervisor" can be ~s (disputes)
  works its magic
    the digital effects team ~ (on a commercial)

amelioration & renewal: magic

magic (Magic Kingdom, etc.)
  Magic Dragon
    their classic hit, "Puff, the ~"
  Magic Kingdom
    smiling faces at the ~ (Disney)
  Magic Slate
    paper and pencils, ~s, communication boards

proper name: magic

magic (magic moment, etc.)
magic moment
  that ~ when you feel the team spirit coming together

feeling, emotion & effect: magic

magic (trail magic, etc.)
  trail magic
    we experienced a lot of ~ (on AT Trail / trail angels)
fate, fortune & chance: magic
  help & assistance: magic

magic (effect)
magic spell
  80 types of weapons and a dozen ~s (computer game)
magic mushrooms
  amphetamines, LSD, ~, amyl nitrate and Ecstasy
feeling, emotion & effect: magic
magical (effect)
magical
the effect was ~ (a new drug)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic
magical (versus reality)
magical shortcut
joining the military should not be a ~ to hero status

appearance & reality: magic
Maginot Line
Maginot Line between two (warring) worlds
14th Street was the ~ (Manhattan theater world)

division & connection: allusion / history / military
magnet (attraction)
magnet for Muslims
Makkah is a ~ (Haj)
magnets for beggars
mosques are ~ (Harar / end of Haj)
magnet for business
they want to make it once again a ~ (lower Manhattan)
magnet for (political) candidates
state fairs are a ~
magnet for controversy
a ~, he riled people up… (an artist)
magnet for (illegal) immigrants
Fairfax County is a ~
magnet for immigration
New York is a ~
magnet for (foreign) investment
tourism has been a ~ (Burma)
magnet for (music) lovers
Nashville is a ~ (live music, museums, etc.)
magnet for (illegal) migrants
the border village is a ~ (Las Chepas)
magnet for (committed) militants
Karachi is a ~
magnet for people
it isn’t much of a ~ who want to meet people (a town)
magnet for politicians
the convention is a ~ and businessmen (Davos)
magnet for (sexual) predators
Webcams are a ~
magnet for (slave) raiders
the area is a ~ (Sudan)

magnet for retirees
Western North Carolina is a ~
magnet for sharks
the seals are a ~
magnet for students
Dr. Chamberlain was a ~ (approachable, etc.)
magnet for transients
the city has become a ~ from around the West
magnet for westerners
it’s a ~ seeking large tax-free salaries (Saudi Arabia)
magnet for artists and tourists
Santa Fe is a ~
magnets for the drunk and the unruly
they are ~ (urban liquor markets)
magnets for pickpockets, shoplifters, and muggers
shopping districts are ~
magnet for (avid) rock climbers
Looking Glass Rock is a ~ (NC)
magnet for music lovers
Nashville is a ~ (live music, museums, etc.)
magnet for sex offenders
the area has become a ~ upon their release from prison
magnet for gold prospectors
the area was a ~
magnet for sexual predators
Web cams are a ~
magnet for the eating-disordered
running is a ~
magnet for its legions of poor
Karachi is a ~ (Pakistan)
magnet school
~s induce kids to schools outside their neighborhoods
magnet and amenity
waterfronts are a ~ for downtown development
immigrant magnet
~s like California
job magnet
the bad economy took away the ~ pulling people here
media magnet
the case has become a ~
suicide magnet
the viaduct has a morbid reputation as a ~ (Toronto)
tourist magnet
Bali has been a ~
bad luck magnet
he is a ~
social magnet
taco trucks, cultural icons and ~s in Mexico (and US)

attraction & repulsion: tools & technology
magnetic (adjective)
emotionally magnetic
the idea of our decline is ~
extraordinarily magnetic
he is an ~ camera subject

attraction & repulsion: tools & technology
magnifying glass (under...)
put us under the magnifying glass
another death would ~ (NASCAR)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology
maiden (adjective)
maiden venture
it was not the group's ~ into Pakistan
maiden voyage
HMS Queen Elizabeth set sail for the US on its ~

experience: love, courtship & marriage / sex
main course
main course
this is just the appetizer, the ~ will come (battle)
development: food & drink
mainstay
mainstay of (gossip) columns
sex is a ~
mainstay of the (bear's) diet
acorns and other mast is the ~
mainstay of the economy
agriculture is the ~ (Pakistan)
mainstay of (Uzbekistan's) economy
cotton is the ~
mainstay of (burn) management
antibiotics are a ~
economic mainstay
trafficking of opium and heroin is Afghanistan's ~

A mainstay is an important rope on a sailing ship that serves to support and stabilize.

bases: boat
mainstream
mainstream
his ideas about diet and health have entered the ~
mainstream conventions
Ismailis ignore some of the ~ of Islam
mainstream of (city) life
remote from the ~
mainstream artist
such ~s as the Chieftains
mainstream audience
getting short films to ~s
mainstream culture
~ and drug culture
mainstream (infertility) groups
mainstream icons
Net culture prides itself on scoffing at ~
mainstream media
the ~ is often accused of liberal bias
mainstream medicine
a religious sect that rejects ~
mainstream popularity
the brief ~ of folk music
mainstream (Saudi) view
the ~ on social issues (women in sports, etc.)
mainstream thinking
it seeped into ~
mainstream and alternative
he straddled the worlds of ~ medicine
underground and the mainstream
he is stuck between the ~ (a snowboarder)
outside the (medical) mainstream
his approach lies ~ (controversial treatment)
from the fringes into the mainstream
social media can push conspiracies ~
entered the mainstream
his ideas about diet and health have ~
join the mainstream
children of immigrants will ~
society: center & periphery / river
center & periphery: river
major league (success)
major league
his journey from the streets to the ~ (a rapper)
success & failure: baseball / sports & games
make (make of something)
make of the (Trump administration’s) decision
what do you ~
make of it
so what did you ~
make of this
what do you ~
make of (all) this
so what do Americans ~ (NPR analysis)
apalysis, interpretation & explanation: verb
make-believe (noun)
air of make-believe
diplomacy can have an ~ (protocol, etc.)
fantasy & reality: magic
make-believe (adjective)
make-believe world
I lived in a ~ that afforded me great comfort (abused)
fantasy & reality: magic
make up (verb)
made the whole story up
police are investigating whether he ~ (hate crime allegation)
creation & transformation: verb
making (creation)
making and unmaking
the book describes her ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)
creation & transformation: manufacturing
malpractice (noun)
malpractice
the diagnosis is wrong, and the prescription is ~
foreign-policy malpractice
this qualifies as ~ (politics)
failure, accident & impairment: health & medicine
manacle (noun)
loosen (Germany’s) manacles
Hollande wants to ~ of austerity (economics)
constraint & lack of constraint: crime
Manhattan Project
Manhattan Project for autism
Gardner has dreamed of a sort of ~
company’s Manhattan Project
he called it the ~ (Monsanto’s roundup-resistant plants)
new Manhattan Project
he’s calling it a ~ for clean energy
difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / history
mania (noun)
self-improvement mania
the ~ is sweeping the country
Internet retail mania
the rising tide of the ~
enthusiasm: health & medicine / mental health
mantle (noun)
mantle
its ~ was taken away (a champion tree)
mantle of religion
blasphemy laws are cloaked in the ~
mantle of his office
he still seems to be adjusting to the ~ (district attorney)
mantle of the presidency
he is set to ~ (leader)
mantle of a prophet
he increasingly adopted the ~
liberal mantle
she has laid claim to the ~
maverick mantle
she wears the ~ (a politician)
progressive mantle
he took up the ~ in the nominating process (Bernie Sanders)
mantle fell on him
the ~ (job responsibility)
assume the mantle
now that Pavarotti is dead, who will ~ (opera)
claimed his mantle
the new party has ~ (politics)
given up the mantle
women have ~ of being defined by their husbands
inherited his mantle
she ~
invoke the (respectable) mantle
they ~ of originalism, but… (constitutional law)
cast off the mantle
Klopp can now ~ (of a loser in soccer finals)
picked up the mantle
the group ~ (fan club for dead celebrity)
shake off the mantle
they want to ~ of tradition (artists)
taken up their mantle
he has ~ (politician and an issue)
♦ A mantle was a cloak.
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: clothing & accessories
representation: clothing & accessories
mantra (message)
mantra
the ~ was trade not conquest (British East India Company)
mantra of American rage
the ~ (I’m mad as hell and I’m not going to take it anymore) mantra in the computer world “innovate or die,” long the ~ mantra (we all learn) in nursing school the ~ is, “If it isn’t charted, it isn’t done” Toyota mantra in the ~, quality was always first cherished mantras “We must fix poverty” is one of the most ~ in education familiar mantra “16 shots and a cover-up” became a ~ (Chicago police) “hope and change” mantra the ~ that propelled Obama to the presidency message / repetition: religion man up (verb) man up it was time for me to ~ responsibility: direction / verb confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / verb map (on the map) on the map the village is ~ again (presidential visit) on the streetfood map the Philly cheese steak put the city ~ on the financial map he put Bank of America and Charlotte ~ on the literary map he helped put the review ~ put Los Angeles on the art map he helped ~ (a sculptor) consciousness & awareness: map location / place: map attention, scrutiny & promotion: map map (drop off the map, etc.) drop off the map the Grenadines are an idea place to ~ fall off the map you see teams that ~ after losing (NBA) consciousness & awareness: map / verb location / place: map attention, scrutiny & promotion: map marathon (effort) marathon meeting gearing up for a ~ next week (city government) marathon (public) speeches during his ~ difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games / walking, running & jumping marbled marbled with orchards the community is ~ configuration: materials & substances march (together, etc.) march in lockstep climate and carbon dioxide clearly ~ (ice cores) unanimity & consensus: military / walking, running & jumping / verb march (march ahead, etc.) marching ahead the science is ~ (genetic tests) progress & lack of progress: direction / movement progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping / verb march (noun) march of globalization the inexorable ~ March of Time the ~ was a series of short films (1935-1951) march towards majority rule rugby's starring role in the ~ (South Africa) inexorable march the ~ of globalization progress & lack of progress: movement / walking, running & jumping marching orders marching orders his ~ were to bring discipline to the staff marching orders from the White House they are getting their ~ (NSA / CIA) control & lack of control: military unanimity & consensus: military margin (on the margins) on the margins boxing has long been a social staircase for those ~ live on the margins they ~, where things often go wrong (justice system) society: center & periphery marginalized marginalized the Pope said religion was being ~
politically marginalized
the far right in Germany is small and ~

attenuation: center & periphery
strength & weakness: center & periphery
mark (black mark)
black mark on the city
the case put a ~ (a murder)
black marks on their credit
~ that can last for year (credit cards)

characterization / reputation: mark
mark (effect)
mark on Morgan County
she's made an indelible ~ (tragedy)
mark on the region
the waves of Germans who made their ~ (Wisconsin)
mark on soldiers
Afghanistan leaves a ~
profound marks
immigration left ~ on the region
high-water mark
it was the ~ of his career (athlete)
indelible mark
she's made an ~ on Morgan County (drunk-driving)
terrorism has left an ~ on his presidency (9/11)
his trip to Sri Lanka left an ~ on him (Chekhov)
left a mark
she ~ on all of us who crossed her path (an actor)
left (profound) marks
immigration ~ on the region
made their mark
the waves of Germans who ~ on the region (Wisconsin)

effect impression: mark
feeling, emotion & effect: mark
mark (off the mark)
way off the mark
you are ~ (argument)
target: weapon
mark (high mark)
high marks for his courage
I give him ~ and commitment (anti-terrorism)
judgment: school & education
marketplace (noun)
marketplace of ideas
New York City is a cacophony of voices and a ~

marriage (relationship)
marriage of convenience
they appear to have made a ~ (terrorist groups)
their alliance was a ~, not deep ideological affinity
marriage of Java and VRML
the ~ (computing)
marriage of mobile phones and the Internet
the ~
marriage of new media and old media

marmite (noun)
marmite person
he was a ~, people either hate him or love him (views)
♦ A similar food is the durian!
attraction & repulsion: food & drink
marooned
marooned by history in positions
they were ~ out of kilter with their era (leaders)
marooned on a (lonesome) block
the restaurant is ~
marooned on a traffic island
hundreds of protestors were ~ (by police)
marooned in camps
people are ~ (refugees from fighting)
marooned in a traffic jam
truckers have been ~ for a week (China)
marooned in a sea
I was ~ of premeds (an arts major)
marooned overnight
several subway trains were ~ after losing power (snow)
marooned hopelessness
in that isolation, in the ~ of the protagonists… (a film)
marooned travelers
at JFK, ~ slept on cots (blizzard)
feel marooned
people ~ (survivors of earthquake)
Isolation & remoteness: island / sea
society: island / sea
marquee (attention)
marquee hearing
this is the first big ~ for the Democratic-controlled house
marquee issue
immigration is his ~ (politics)
marquee things
the ~ that make headlines (better pay and benefits, etc.)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: film / sign, signal, symbol
the ~ (AOL and Time Warner)
maintenance of science and government
the ~ in the US
marriage of technology and opera
the ~
maintenance of the Web and the classroom
the ~ ("education")
maintenance of Islam and modernity
some Arabs want a ~
relationship: love, courtship & marriage
division & connection: love, courtship & marriage
marriage (shotgun marriage)
shotgun marriage of S4C and the BBC
the ~ will not last (politics)
shotgun marriage between the two parties
the ~ will not last (politics)

Cartersville, Ga., May 13.—William V. Jones, a young man of Taylorsville, was violently taken from his home on Tuesday night to the residence of Miss Ida Gaston, whom he was accused of betraying, and compelled under pressure of shotguns to marry her. He came here today and entered suit for divorce."


relationship: love, courtship & marriage
division & connection: love, courtship & marriage
eagerness & reluctance: love, courtship & marriage
coercion & motivation: love, courtship & marriage
married

married to her job
the kind of woman people describe as ~
division & connection: love, courtship & marriage
relationship: love, courtship & marriage
Marshall Plan
21st-century Marshall Plan
we need to invest in a ~ for Honduras... (immigration)
help & assistance: allusion / history
difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion / history
martyr (person)
free speech martyrs
don’t turn loudmouths and thugs into ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: person / religion
person: religion
mask (drop the mask)
dropped the mask on his nativist sentiments
he has ~ (a politician)
concealment & lack of concealment: face
mask (hide)
mask your intentions

in war, you try to ~ (intelligence)
mask the location
Moscow’s ability to ~ of Russian forces
concealment & lack of concealment: face / verb
masterclass (noun)
masterclass in showmanship
it was a ~ (historic Kim-Trump meeting at DMZ 2019)
gives a masterclass
De Gea ~ (excellent performance in goal)
produced a masterclass
Tottenham ~ at Everton (English football)
knowledge & intelligence: school & education
superlative: school & education
masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
masterpiece of spins
a technical ~, spirals and footwork (Michele Kwan)
engineering masterpiece
these race cars are ~s
the Taif escarpment road is an ~ (Saudi Arabia)
technical masterpiece
a ~ of spins, spirals and footwork (Michele Kwan)
three-hit masterpiece
he threw a ~ (baseball)
achievement, recognition & praise: picture
creation & transformation: picture
superlative: picture
mat (welcome mat)
welcome mat
Australia is yanking the ~ (for refugees)
yanking the welcome mat
Australia is ~ (for refugees)
welcome: carpets & rugs
match (death match)
in a death match
the two men are engaged ~
conflict: film / history / sports & games
Matilda effect
element of the Matilda effect
women who don’t cite themselves is an ~

In her essay "Woman as Inventor," Matilda Joslyn Gage (1826-1898) claimed that women scientists did not get as much recognition as male scientists.
achievement, recognition & praise: allusion
**mature (verb)**
matured
our relationship has ~ (between India and US)

**growth & development: death & life / verb**

**maturity**
democratic maturity
a key measure of the ~ of Turkey

**growth & development: death & life**

**maverick (noun)**

maverick
I like being a little bit of a ~
being the ~ that I was, I decided to challenge those rules
Shackleton was too much of a ~ for a desk job

hard-charging maverick
he was a ~ who shook up football (a coach)
★ This word relates to Samuel A. Maverick (1803-1870).

**character & personality: animal / cows & cattle / horse**

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: animal / person

**maze (terrain)**
maze of canyons
wild horses—both mustangs and runaways— roam the ~
maze of (decaying) seracs
one last trip through the ~ (Icefall / Everest)
maze of (tire) tracks
the only roads are a ~ in the sand (Dadaab)
maze of trails
a ~ that leads to a construction site and a series of roads
maze of (deer) trails
a ~
maze of ice and rocks
alone, lost in a ~ (Nuptse)
maze of mangrove, canals and swamps
the forest was a dark ~ (U Minh)

**complexity: infrastructure**

**maze (structures)**
maze of (hillside) slums
people crammed into the ~ (Kabul)
maze of (vertical) slums
squeezed into a ~ without bathrooms (Kabul)
maze of (narrow) streets
crowds of shoppers in the ~ (Nanning)
maze of tunnels
they got lost in a ~ (Canary Islands)
maze of bars, restaurants and nightclubs
a ~ (Kuta Beach, Bali)
maze of dikes and dams and ditches
the Tulare Lake Basin, with its ~
maze of shanties and shacks
fought their way through a dense ~ (Mogadishu)
maze of (refuse-strewn) back streets and alleyways
the ~ (Sadr City)

**complexity / situation: infrastructure**

**McCarthy**

McCarthy moment
this cancellation culture is the SJW ~ (of Walt Whitman)

**oppression: allusion / history**

**McCarthyite**

McCarthyite hysteria
Democrats are sometimes prone to ~ (against Russia)

**oppression: allusion / history**

**meal ticket**

saw him as a meal ticket
she ~ (source of support and money)

**cost & benefit: food & drink / ticket**

**meander (verb)**

meander in new and different directions
as the two states ~ (Ireland and UK)
meander in unexpected ways
conversations ~
meanders from action to satire to romance
the film ~
highways meander
~ in the South

**fictive motion: verb**
direction: movement / verb

meat (substance)

meat of the subject
and then go on to the real ~

meat on the bone
there isn’t any ~ (nothing to investigate)

substance & lack of substance: food & drink / meat

meat (fresh meat)

fresh meat
they knew we were ~ (prison-guard trainees)

experience: meat

meat (piece of meat)

piece of meat
got another fresh ~ to fill the slot (adjunct PhDs)

pieces of meat
football players are ~ sold to the highest bidder

product / worth & lack of worth: meat

mecca

mecca of basketball
a ~ (the Christian Street YMCA in Philadelphia)

mecca of bluegrass
the ~ (Bean Blossom, Indiana)

mecca of Manolos and Miuccia Pradas
Manhattan’s ~ (Bergdorf Goodman)

mecca for (500,000) bikers
a motorcycle ~ (Sturgis, S.D.)

Mecca for climbers
Hueco Tanks State Historical Park, a ~

mecca for (Arizona) tourists
a ~ (Kartchner Caverns)

mecca for glider pilots
Marfa, Texas, is a ~

mecca for kite lovers
the Washington (D.C.) area is a ~

Mecca for train buffs
the town is a ~ (Folkston, GA / USA)

mecca to (whitewater) paddlers
the Altays are a ~ (Russia)

arts mecca
the city wants to be an ~

drug mecca
Spain has replaced Amsterdam as the new European ~

tourist mecca
the ~ of Waikiki (Hawaii)

motorcycle mecca
a ~ for 500,000 bikers (Sturgis, S.D.)

spring break meccas
~ like Pensacola and Panama City Beach

boxing Mecca
he settled in Philadelphia, a ~ (Joe Frazier)

gambling meccas
~ like Atlantic City and Las Vegas

skateboarding mecca
he moved to the ~, California

homophile mecca
this ~ (San Francisco)

† Over a billion Muslims around the world pray five times a day towards the Saudi city of Makkah, and over two million Muslim pilgrims a year visit that city for the annual Haj.

attraction & repulsion: place / religion

medal (noun)

take it as a medal
I ~ (the label ‘bleeding heart’)

achievement, recognition & praise: sign, signal, symbol

medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)

got a taste of her own medicine
she ~ (therapist goes to therapy)

experience: food & drink / health & medicine / taste

reversal: food & drink / health & medicine / taste

fate, fortune & chance: food & drink / health & medicine / taste

medieval (adjective)

medieval
to the outside eye, the system appears ~ (Afghanistan)
dark, sadistic and medieval
his ~ vision of the future (al-Zarqawi)

growth & development: history

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history

knowledge & intelligence / violence: history

meet (attain)

met with (limited) success
traditional methods have ~ (problem bears)

meet (strict academic) criteria
to get in, girls must ~ (high school)

meet their goals
students should record whether or not they ~

met the objectives
how well the group had ~ of the lesson (schools)
on track to meet
the services are ~ reserve manpower goals (military)

**attainment: verb**

**meet (something can meet you)**

met our eyes
  an unusual sight ~ (on a wilderness trip)

**fictional meeting & seeing: verb**

**megaphone (noun)**

megaphone for rants
  the Internet gives anyone a free ~
media megaphone
  his voice is amplified by the ~ (a Wall Street analyst)
pulpit and the megaphone
  use the ~ of the office to highlight human rights
lost his megaphone
  I’m happy that Jones has ~ (deplatformed by Twitter, etc.)

**message / transmission: tools & technology**

**melodrama (noun)**

legal melodrama
  a ~ erupted, dismayed and demoralizing patients

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

**melodramatic (adjective)**

melodramatic
  don’t be so ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: theater**

**melt (verb)**

melted (silently) into the trees
  the platoon ~
melted under the onslaught
  Saudi Arabia ~, as Germany… (soccer)

**appearance & disappearance: snow & ice / verb**

**melt away (verb)**

militias have melted away
  Shiites ~
tension melted away
  all my tension ~

**appearance & disappearance: snow & ice / verb**

**meltdown (noun)**

in meltdown
  the country is ~ (Yemen)
market meltdown
  a bill to prevent a repeat of the ~ of 2008
dot-com meltdown
  the ~ and poor economy

**NotPetya meltdown**
  Maersk’s global network in the wake of its ~ (worm)

**social-media meltdown**
  it was a major ~ (Facebook goes down for 14 hours)

**economic meltdown**
  the landmark restaurant was a victim of the ~

**financial meltdown**
  the IMF tries to avert ~s
  we are still paying for the ~ (2010)

**meltdown dealt a deathblow to both ideas**
  the financial ~ (foreign policy)

**avert (financial) meltdowns**
  the IMF tries to ~

**triggered (economic) meltdown**
  sanctions have ~

**paying for the (financial) meltdown**
  we are still ~ (2010)

**failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / nuclear energy**

**destruction: nuclear energy**

**feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances**

**melting pot (noun)**

cultural melting pot
  a foundational element of US society is that we are a ~
melting pot, a (beautiful) tapestry, or a salad bowl
  is the United States a ~

**mixture: container / fire / mining / temperature**

**identity & nature: container / fire / mining / temperature**

**memory lane (down memory lane)**

trip down memory lane
  a ~ (old photos)
walk down memory lane
  a ~

**memory: infrastructure**

**past & present: infrastructure**

**mend (on the mend)**

on the mend
  but now his life is ~

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism**

**mend (verb)**

mend the divisions
  ~ in East Timorese society (elections)

**amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb**

**menu (computer)**

Search Menu
Back to ~ (computer)

start menu
each user has a customized desktop and ~ (computers)
tools menu
on the ~, click mail merge (computers)
View menu
click on the following items on the ~ (computers)
items on the View menu
click on the following ~ (computers)
alternatives & choices / computer: food & drink
mercenary (person)
mercenary for hire
he was ashamed to see his former colleagues ~
mercenary approach
some of his former colleagues took a more ~
mercenary model
locals renting rooms has been supplanted by a more ~
character & personality: conflict / money / person
mercurial (adjective)
mercurial insight
he is a visionary with a capacity for ~ (scientist)
mercurial personality
his ~ caused headaches (an employee)
mercurial and uncertain
he is ~
brash and mercurial
Somalia's pirates are ~
character & personality: materials & substances
merry-go-round
merry-go-round of foster care
the ~
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sports & games
mesmerizing (adjective)
mesmerizing performance
she bewitched all with a ~
makes the film mesmerizing
strangeness and emotion ~
feeling, emotion & effect: magic
mess (person)
mess
he's a ~ (not in control of his life)
hot mess
I admit it, I've been a ~ lately
being in your 20s is a ~, a mad time
character & personality: hygiene
mess (noun)
clean up the mess
grownups must ~ (finances)
cleaning up this mess
we're ~ (diplomacy)
flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene
situation: hygiene
message (send a message, etc.)
message of hate
bin Laden's ~ (terrorism)
message of hope
a ~ versus false hope (schizophrenia)
the film offers a ~
message of unity and equality
his ~ (Martin Luther King, Jr.)
messages about cheating
schools send mixed ~
play's message
some have questioned the ~ (controversial, political)
song's message
the ~
core message
his ~ is…
key message
I think one of the ~s is…
public health message
Angolans have resisted the ~ (Marburg virus)
underlying message
understand their ~ (autistic behaviors)
inspiring message
not exactly an ~
leaders issued ~s
mixed message
schools send ~s about cheating
subliminal message
logos can be powerful, and they are all about ~s
wrong message
sending the ~ to kids (that thin is good)
important psychological message
this would send an ~ to Noriega
message is getting through
our message is ~
get the message across
we need to ~ to every fan that racist abuse is wrong
send messages
  people ~ through their body language

**message:** tools & technology

**messy (adjective)**

messy situation
  it’s a ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: hygiene**

**metastasize (verb)**

metastasize
  this is a cancer that has been allowed to ~ (an issue)
metastasized
  the mission has ~ (a military operation)
metastasized to (over) $20,000
  that debt ~ (credit-card debt)
metastasized into a (regional) crisis
  the cancer has ~ (terrorism)
metastasized into a (global) crisis
  recklessness ~ (financial collapse)
metastasized into a Great Depression
  the great slump could have ~ (2010)
metastasized from a controversy to an indication
  the situation has ~ of a larger problem (blackface controversy)
grown and metastasized
  extremism has ~ in the country
allow the (underlying) problem to metastasize
  treating the symptoms of the problem can ~ (politics)

**affliction: health & medicine**

**growth & development: health & medicine**

**meteoric (adjective)**

meteoric
  her academic progress was less than ~
meteoric rise
  his ~ was the stuff of New York dreams (literary agent)
  she had a ~ and a heartbreaking fall (Whitney Houston)
  the podcast chronicles her ~ and fall from grace
meteoric success
  he achieved ~ (owner of Israeli winery)

**speed: astronomy**

**miasma**

miasma of sleaze and corruption
  the administration is mired in a ~ (politics)

corruption: air / atmosphere / smell

**Michael Jordan (epithet)**

Michael Jordan of the dog-show world
Mick is the ~ (a blue terrier)

**superlative: basketball / sports & games**

**ability & lack of ability: basketball / epithet / sports & games**

**epithet: basketball / sports & games**

**microclimate**

microclimate of white literary bourgeois Cape Town
  her novel is an evocation of the ~

**environment: weather & climate**

**microscope (under a microscope)**

under the microscope
  cycling is ~ (Lance Armstrong, on doping)
  every aspect of their relationship is ~ (celebrities)
  now her own behavior is ~ (sex scandal)
  now it’s Trump’s turn ~ (a book by Bob Woodward)
get put under a microscope
  the first time a family gets a foster kid they ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology / eye**

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: tools & technology / eye**

**microscope (through a microscope)**

look at things through a microscope
  my job is to ~, not the binoculars (reporter)

**perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology**

**Midas (Midas touch)**

Midas touch
  he had the ~ (Steve Jobs)

**money: allusion**

**middle (in the middle)**

caught in the middle
  civilians are ~ (war)

**situation: position**

**Middle Ages (history)**

medical Middle Ages
  the Civil War was fought at the end of the ~ (US)
marching backward to the Middle Ages
  it feels like this country is ~ (religion)

**growth & development: history**

**middle-of-the-road**

middle-of-the-road approach
  we are taking a ~

**position, policy & negotiation: position**

**middle-of-the-roader**

middle-of-the-roaders
they are ~

**position, policy & negotiation: person / position**

**midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)**

one more stroke closer to midnight
  for him, the campaign clock took ~ (failing)
  ♦ This is a reference to the Doomsday Clock.

**fate, fortune & chance: allusion / clock / day**

**midwife**

played midwife to (new) democracies
  the US ~ in Germany and Japan after World War II
served as midwife
  Stanford has ~ to many disruptive technologies

**creation & transformation: birth**

**mile (the extra mile)**

gone the extra mile to make
  we have ~ the fair safe

**difficulty, easiness & effort: distance**

**mileage**

political mileage
  ~ to be gotten from historic grievances (blacks)

**cost & benefit: distance**

**milestone**

milestone
  the groups applauded Bush's signing of the bill as a ~
  milestone in (modern Holocaust) awareness
  Eichmann's trial was a ~
  milestone in the development
    a ~ of Africa (emergency-med conference)

milestone in our journey
  this is a significant ~ towards the promise of… (medicine)

milestone for a kindergartner
  tying his shoes can be quite a ~

another milestone
  this is ~ in Georgia's democratic development (election)

**developmental milestones**
  ~ occur (babies)

**major milestone**
  the extraditions are a ~ in our effort… (law)

**next milestone**
  the ~ in neural prosthetics (for quadriplegics)

sad milestone
  this is a ~ on our descent into intolerance (shooting)

22 milestones
  we laid out a series of ~ (contract)

milestone was reached
  today a ~ (Stock Market hits 40,000)

passed a milestone
  the country appears to have ~ (Iran / nuclear weapons)

passed a milestone
  The country appears to have ~ (Iran / nuclear weapons)
  ♦ The Romans positioned milestones on the roads. Old milestones might indicate the distance to a place, or from a place. Modern milestones are called mile markers, and are metal signs, instead of stones.
  ♦ Traditional sociologists listed five milestones of adulthood: finishing school; leaving home, getting a job; marrying; and having a child.

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips**

**achievement, recognition & praise: journeys & trips**

**importance & significance: journeys & trips**

**milk (verb)**

milk this issue for all it's worth
  he will ~ (a politician)

**taking & removing: cows & cattle / verb**

**mill (gossip / rumor mill)**

gossip mill
  the ~ at the office

rumor mill
  we all know the ~ churns out misinformation
  getting involved in the ~ at work can get sticky

rumor mills whirred
  in the soldiers' camps, ~
  ♦ In Ghana, people pass on information word-of-mouth through the "talking drum," the figurative one. In the Philippines, people hear things through the bamboo telegraph. In Hawaii, word-of-mouth is referred to as the coconut wireless. And in the US, people hear things through the grapevine, or the rumor mill.

**content / gossip: manufacturing**

**mill (grist for the mill)**

grist for their (propaganda) mill
  the leaks will be more ~ (war)

grist for the tabloid mill
  his attention-grabbing antics are ~

provided the grist
  the report ~ for a lot of conspiracy theories
  ♦ Grist is grain that is ground to make flour.

**content / gossip: manufacturing**

**mill (other)**

"mills of citizenship"
  the role of French schools as ~ (and Frenchness)

**diploma mill**
  he received his degree from a ~ (coach)
  the NCAA is trying to clean up the high school ~s
  ~s are only one troubling part of youth basketball

**propaganda mill**
the leaks will be more grist for their ~ (war)
pill mill
the doctor ran an illegal "~" for addicts, dealers
term-paper mill
online ~s
online (term-paper) mills
♦ A mill traditionally ground wheat, then the word became synonymous with a factory.
♦ Workers in West Bengal’s foundries make manhole covers for New York City. The workers make a few dollars a day, and are not supposed to work barefoot.

creation & transformation: manufacturing

million-dollar
million-dollar question
that’s the ~

importance & significance: money
mince (verb)
minced no words
Putin ~
speech: cooking / verb
mind (wrap / get one’s mind around something, etc.)
wrap our minds around what
it was hard to ~ had happened
wrap his mind around what
he is trying to ~ the future will be like (after disaster)
get their heads around
that’s very difficult for people to ~ (murder trial)
get my head around it
I still can’t ~
wrap you mind around it
you try to ~ but it’s just incomprehensible (a disaster)

comprehension & incomprehension: mind / verb

mind (area)
through your mind
so what went ~
cross your mind
did it ~ that…

mind: space

mind (platform)
on your mind
what’s ~
get it off my mind
I can’t ~
cross your mind
did it ~ that…

mind: platform

mind (container)
in mind
what do you have ~ (idea)
change our minds
we might ~
opened (Afghan women’s) minds
the media has ~
keep in mind
it is a benchmark that we must ~
put the problem out of his mind
he tried to ~
come into your mind
how did the idea ~
get it out of my mind
I can’t ~

mind: container

mind (open mind)
tunnel vision versus an open mind
~ (criminal investigations)
have an open mind
God tells us to ~ and an open heart (interfaith issues)
we ~, we have to think out of the box (WHO and Ebola)
keeping an open mind
we are ~ (about cause of disease)
♦ “A person can be so open-minded that his brains fall out.” (A critic, speaking of Thabo Mbeki’s willingness to accept any argument against giving antiretrovirals to South African H.I.V. sufferers.)

mind: access & lack of access / container

minded (steely-minded)
steely-minded detective
Miss Marple is a ~

mind: materials & substances
mine (search)
mined the debris for anything
the Palestinians have ~ usable or sellable
mine (real-time) intelligence
security personnel will now ~ (at airports)
mine the (elaborate) chemical signatures
researchers have begun to ~ of breath (medicine)

searching & discovery: mining / verb

minefield
minefield
the unwritten rules, hidden agendas, and ~s
minefield of (early) adolescence
the story follows him through the precarious ~
minefield of challenges
the tumor presents a ~ for the surgeons
minefield for those
the immigration bill is a ~ who have been waiting...
minefield of (US) politics
I'm not going to walk into the ~ (a foreign leader)
political minefield
how to dispose of his body is a ~ (a dead dictator)
relational minefield
school can be a daily ~ for girls (social aggression)
rhetorical minefield
he has entered the Mideast's ~ (use of word crusade)
social minefield
every day of school can be a new ~ (girls' bullying)
planted a (political) minefield
the British colonizers ~ in the 1920s (Sudan)

danger: explosion / military / walking, running & jumping / weapon

mining (data, etc.)
data-mining (m)
~ software sorts information
text mining (m)
~ software to analyze customer feedback

searching & discovery: mining

minnow (noun)

minnow
the FA Cup allows a ~ to kill a giant (soccer)
European minnow
the ~s knocked out Lyon on penalties (soccer)

♦ "Back home I was a big fish in a small pond, but in Miami I'm just a minnow surrounded by sharks." (A model.)
♦ "The whole country will be behind the minnows." (Les Herbiers plays Paris St-Germain for the final of the Coupe de France.)

importance & significance: animal / fish / size
strength & weakness: animal / fish / size
power: animal / fish / size
size: animal / fish

minted
freshly minted (m)
~ graduates
newly minted (m)
~ M.B.A.s
~ guests jockeyed for face time with the ~ star (party)

creation & transformation: money

m miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.)
Miracle of Bern
the "~", as the '54 final is known (World Cup soccer)
Miracle on the Hudson
the crash landing became known as the ~ (Flight 1549)
Miracle of Istanbul
the ~, it's called (Liverpool wins Champions League)

fate, fortune & chance: epithet
epithet: religion

miracle (other)
miracle
there can be ~s when you believe…
who knows what ~s you can achieve
photosynthesis is a ~ linking heaven and earth

miracle cure
there's no ~ on the horizon (brain tumors)

miracle drug
the beneficiary of a ~

miracle pill
it is not a ~ (a drug)

miracle worker
you're a ~ (helped solve a person's problem)

Christmas miracle
sometimes ~s just don't happen

accomplished miracles
he ~

expect miracles
you can't ~ (search dogs)

pray for a miracle
until the moment of death, families ~

pray for miracles
we still ~ in West Virginia (trapped miners)
believe in miracles
we ~ (that trapped miners are alive)

worked a miracle
you ~ last night (praise for a nurse)
pulled off a miracle
they ~... (sports comeback)

fate, fortune & chance: religion
cost & benefit: religion

miraculous (adjective)
miraculous
the last-minute goal bordered on ~ (sports)
miraculous escape
reports of his ~ (from capture)

fate, fortune & chance: religion
mired (stuck)
mired at 9.6 percent
unemployment is ~
mired in Afghanistan
now we are ~ (war)
mired in crisis
Somalia has been ~ since 1991
mired in (economic) distress
people are ~ (unemployment)
mired in the doldrums
we remain ~ (poor economy)
mired in grief
rabbis stress Yom Kippur should not be ~
mired in litigation
the university is still ~
mired in misery
Haiti remains ~
mired in a (4-decade) war
Colombia is ~ against guerrillas
mired in squalor and devastation
they led lives ~ (Chechnya)
get mired in another Iraq
the US doesn't want to ~ in another Iraq (Syria)

obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land
flaws & lack of flaws: mechanism
progress & lack of progress: mechanism

mirror (verb)
mirrored his erratic (off-the-field) behaviour
his unpredictable style ~ (sports)
repetition: mirror / verb

mirror (noun)
look at himself in the mirror
he's got to ~ (businessman / ethics)
hold a mirror up to ourselves
we must ~ and ask why (physician suicides)
holds a mirror up to how
the film ~ people in this generation grew up
① Some amusement parks have mirror mazes.
② A carnival or funhouse mirror is a curved mirror that can distort your image. Such a mirror can make you look like a fat midget, or make your chin look a foot long.

consciousness & awareness: mirror

mirror (in the rear-view mirror)
in the rear-view mirror
she knows her setbacks will soon be ~ (teen)
we’ll be glad to put this cold weather ~

past & present: mirror

misbehave (verb)
misbehaved
when one of the newer gyros was switched on, it ~ (Hubble)

functioning: mechanism / verb
flaws & lack of flaws: mechanism / verb

miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
miscarriage of justice
the referee made mistakes and there was a ~ (soccer coach)

failure, accident & impairment: baby / birth / health & medicine

miscue (noun)
verbal miscue
he clouded his message with a series of ~s (politician)
① A miscue refers to billiards or pool.

failure, accident & impairment: sports & games

misdiagnose (verb)
misdiagnosed the severity
economists ~ of the problem (financial)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: health & medicine / verb
failure, accident & impairment: health & medicine / verb

mislead (verb)
misled Congress
he disputed that he ~ last month when he said...
mislead anyone about his credentials
he said he had not tried to ~

direction: journeys & trips / verb

misleading
misleading
laboratory results were ~ (vs. fieldwork)
misleading advertisements
~ (personal ads for porn sites on Internet)
misleading case
having made a ~ for war… (in Iraq)
misleading (label) claims
exotic supplements with ~
misleading (accounting) practices
~ in the marketplace
misleading statement
~s have been made
misleading or inaccurate
the information presented is ~(medical Web sites)
totally misleading
the stereotype is ~ (that young drug users are "losers")
phony, dishonest or misleading
  there was nothing ~ about the photo (Iwo Jima)

direction: journeys & trips

misread (verb)

misreading the evidence
  he is ~ (scientific dispute)

misread him
  I guess I ~ from the beginning

misread each other’s intentions
  countries ~, in the fog of all these events (the Gulf)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading / verb

missing in action (MIA)

missing in action from the big screen
  they have been ~ for years (old stars)

MIA
  Google may be ~ (at tech hearings)

Involvement: military
appearance & disappearance: military
presence & absence: military

missionary (person)

missionary to America
  he was a soccer ~

soccer missionary
  he was a ~ to America

message: person / religion
enthusiasm: person / religion
person: religion

misstep (noun)

misstep
  the lamb was topped, in a ~, with tomatoes (food)

public-relations misstep
  the stores decision to change its logo was a ~

costly misstep
  this bill is a ~ (politics)

honest misstep
  he made an ~ (politician)

inadvertent misstep
  he should be blamed for an ~ (ethics)

incendiary misstep
  the organization has made some politically ~s

procedural misstep
  death-penalty cases are vulnerable to ~s

strategic misstep
  the company's

admitted missteps
  he ~ in his first year (president)

made any missteps
  he hasn't ~ (political campaign)

marred by missteps
  the operation was ~ and poor judgments (government)

failure, accident & impairment: walking, running & jumping
flaws & lack of flaws: walking, running & jumping

mist (red mist)

red mist came down
  he acted deplorably as the ~ (prosecutor / England)

feeling, emotion & effect / violence: blood

mix (in / into the mix)
soldiers in the mix
  more ~ will ensure the desired outcome

get (right) back in the mix
  you've got to get back up and ~ (MMA fighter)

bring more people into the mix
  we must ~ (process)

Involvement: mixture

mixed up
mixed up with a Japanese girl
  I got ~ in Honolulu

Involvement: mixture

moat (noun)

moat around the outbreak
  officials acted to build a ~ (bird-flu outbreak)

protection & lack of protection: fortification / military

mob (group)

mob of volunteers
  police were joined by a ~ (search)

amount / behavior / group, set & collection: crime

mob (society)

liberal “mob”
  he portrayed himself as a victim of a ~ (culture wars)

twittermob
  yet none of this matters to the ~ (racism controversy)

baying of the mob
  he did not bow to the ~ (followed his own mind)

society: person

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 414 of 982
mogul (noun)

media mogul
long-time Trump ally and conservative ~
music mogul
the ~ lured youngsters into his cars

power: history / person

mold (verb)
mold their athletes into officers
coaches help ~ to lead (West Point)

creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb

mold (fit a mold)
fit a (prescribed) mold
in an environment where you feel pressured to ~
fit the mold
male anchors who don’t ~ (TV news)
fit a (prescribed) mold
workplaces where you feel pressured to ~

behavior: manufacturing
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: manufacturing

mole (noun)
Russian mole
he turned out to be a ~

concealment & lack of concealment: animal
subterfuge: animal

Molotov cocktail
digital Molotov cocktail
the arrests were greeted with ~s (hackers’ revenge)

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion

momentum (lose momentum)
losing its momentum
the US economic recovery is ~

failure, accident & impairment: movement

momentum (noun)
momentum of the game
the missed penalty kick changed the ~
momentum for a lottery
the budget crisis creates ~ (state)
anti-noise momentum
the ~ appears to be growing
lost momentum
the Democrats need to regain their ~ (politics)
word-of-mouth momentum
the ~ that propels a book (publishing)

changed the momentum
the missed penalty kick ~ of the game
gained momentum
the notion has ~ (that speaking out is therapeutic)
street protests have ~ (Myanmar in 2007)
gaining momentum
protests are ~
gathering momentum
a campaign to regulate the company is ~ (Facebook)
losing its momentum
the US economic recovery is ~
lost their momentum
they ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement
increase & decrease: movement
progress & lack of progress: movement
force: movement

monarch (primacy)
monarch of AI
deep learning is the reigning ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty
superlative: person / royalty
person: royalty

monster (Monster.com, etc.)
Monster and MSN
the site is jointly operated by ~ (Web site)
proper name: creature

monster (create a monster)
created a monster
we have ~ (diplomacy)
they still don’t accept that they ~ (Facebook)

affliction: allusion / creature

monster (affliction)
monster
only ~s could have planned this (Siberian slave labor)
it is a ~ (methamphetamine usage in small rural town)
these are the ~s we’ve been hunting (serial shooters)
~s committed this crime
vicious monster
they have become ~s (terrorists)
turned into a monster
in the 3 months we were engaged he ~

♦ "Unemployment is a monster which not only renders the fit powerless but prevents them from contributing to their society’s development.”
(Abdullah Al-Asmari, in Al-Watan, on unemployment in Saudi Arabia.)

affliction: creature
**monster (size)**

monster
it's a ~, it's awesome (speaking of a huge wildfire)

monster hit
the studio hasn't had a ~ since... (films)

monster hurricane
the tingling anxiety one feels facing a ~
a ~, with its 150-mile-an-hour winds

monster kite
running a ~ is a special skill

monster ramp
most of the riders had never ridden the ~ (MegaRamp)

monster ratings
the game show's ~

monster swarm
trillions of cicadas are emerging in a ~ (Brood X)

monster tsunami
a ~ had been unleashed (Indian Ocean / 2004)

monster waves
the hurricane spawned ~ that toppled beach houses

monster (40-foot) waves
surfers couldn't resist the challenge of the ~

monster dust devil
Mohammed created a ~ (battle of Bahr near Medina)

monster iceberg
a ~ is drifting towards western Australia (2009)

monster sandstorm
a ~ grounded coalition forces south of Baghdad

cricket: a ~ (of a bowler)

concrete monster
it's a dinosaur, a ~ (an old sports stadium)

mechanical monster
as the clattering ~ descends (helicopter)

**size: creature**

**monument**

monument to insignificance
the novel is a 576-page ~

greatest monument
"Warsaw Survivor" is music's ~ to the Holocaust

**importance & significance: infrastructure**

**monumental**

monumental achievement
it was a ~ (scholarship)

monumental law
but passage of the ~ was an uphill battle

**importance & significance: infrastructure**

**moonscape**

moonscape
the desert was a ~

scorched moonscape
a ~ scoured by whirlwinds of ash (wildfire)

barren moonscape
elephants turn woodland into a ~

vast, grassy moonscape
Pierre is ringed by a vast, ~ (isolation)

turn woodland into a (barren) moonscape
elephants can ~

appearance / resemblance: moon

**moored**

moored in an (earlier) time
the religion seems permanently ~ (criticism)

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

**morass (noun)**

morass of (complicated and conflicting) research
school officials are confronted with a ~ (education)

legal morass
he found himself in a ~

complexity / environment: ground, terrain & land
obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land
progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land

**moribund (adjective)**

moribund
the pace of economic growth is ~
the economy is ~

moribund economy
he should focus on our ~ (politics)

**condition & status: death & life / health & medicine**

**Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)**

Mormons of the Middle East
the Druze are the ~

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: epithet / religion
epithet: religion

**morning (early in the morning)**

early in the morning
but it's ~, at this point... (response to computer virus)

timeliness & lack of timeliness: day

**mosaic (noun)**

mosaic of evidence
it adds to the overall ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture
moth (attraction)
flame to (a good many) moths
he was certainly a candle ~ (Lord Byron and women)
attraction & repulsion: fire / light & dark
mothball (verb)
mothball the carriers
some wanted to ~ (because of high cost / Britain)
dismissal, removal & resignation: insect / verb
mother (mother's milk)
mother's milk of politics
money is the ~
bases: food & drink
importance & significance: food & drink
mother (mother ship, etc.)
mother ship
divers on tethers to their ~
their orbiting ~ (above asteroid)
refueling, resupplying with the help of tenders and ~s
pirates operating from a ~ off the Somali coast
this submarine and its mother ship (DSSV Pressure Drop)
division & connection: family
relationship: family
person: family
mother (superlative)
mother of all battles
Saddam promised the ~ (Gulf War)
superlative: family
mother (mother of invention, etc.)
mother of invention
if necessity is the ~, discontent is the father of progress
mother of (all) learning
repetition is the ~
creation & transformation: epithet / family
mother (mother earth)
mother earth
care for our ~
relationship: epithet / family
mother (Mother Nature)
Mother Nature
~ didn't cooperate (Winter Olympics weather)
let ~ take her course (a sick animal)
~ had other ideas (concerning explorer's planned trip)
~ makes smart critters (salmon head upstream, etc.)
at the mercy of Mother Nature
we're ~ right now (wildfire / town)
biodiversity: epithet
weather & climate: epithet
mother (Mother Mountain, etc.)
Mother Mountain
Sam Ahkeah says that it is the ~ near Taos
Mother and Child
the ~ are peaks in Vietnam
proper name: family
mother (den mother, etc.)
den mother
she is a natural ~
stage mother
I'm not a pushy ~
help & assistance: animal / family / person
mother hen
mother-hen (m)
she justified her ~ efforts as being in her daughter's best interests
help & assistance: animal / family / bird
mother lode
mother lode
the ~, the jackpot, Valhalla (88th episode of show)
hit the mother lode
we ~ (information in archive)
source: mining
mother tongue
speak Chinese as their mother tongue
over a billion people ~
speak English as their mother tongue
372 million people ~
translate from their mother tongue
students who need to ~ to English
taught in their native tongue
children must be ~ (indigenous languages / Nigeria)
speech: family
mount (verb)
bloodshed mounted
the ~ on both sides (gang violence)
concerns (over data security) mount
as ~ (Internet)
costs mounted
his ~ and mounted some more (bankruptcy)
losses are mounting
livestock ~ (blizzards in Colorado / especially cattle)
pressure is mounting
the ~

outrage is mounting
~ over the security guard who...

continued to mount
heat-related deaths ~

increase & decrease: pile / verb

mountain (difficulty)

mountain
you can move ~s if you put your mind to it

steep mountain
the team has a ~ to climb

move mountains
they will ~ for your (coach about his players)

♦ "Enjoy [your unbeaten streak]—the emotion of getting to the top of the mountain—because you can't duplicate that. It's a lot tougher to stay on the mountain than it is to climb it." (Ara Parseghian's advice to Tyrone Willingham.)

difficulty, easiness & effort: mountains & hills

mountain (amount)

mountain of cocaine
he has done a ~ (a troubled celebrity)

mountain of criticism
she was subjected to a ~ (a tennis star)

mountain of data
the newspaper had to sort, search and understand a ~

mountains of data
sift through ~

mountain of debris
people trapped under a ~ (building collapse)

mountains of disagreement
negotiators tried to scale ~ (G-20)

mountain of evidence
police have a ~ and a statement (murderer)

mountains of garbage
neighborhoods here are ringed by ~ (Luanda)

mountains of refuse
~ filled the streets (Athens)

mountain of research
a ~ shows that…

mountains of waste
~, public nudity, drunkenness, drugs (biker rally)

mountain of (coal) waste
a ~, now 50 stories high (Shanxi Province)

mountains of paperwork
the ~ take up so much time that... (Sudan aid)

man-made mountain

mountainous (adjective)

mountainous seas
~ threatened to dash them against the rocks (sailing)
Cape Horn, with its ~

mountainous waves
~ crashed against the headlands (Pillar Point)
~ overturned ocean-going freighters (typhoon / Japan)

resemblance / size: mountains & hills

Mount Everest (and Everest)

Everest
"Ulysses" was an ~ no filmmaker dared assault

Mt. Everest of surfing
Hawaii's Waimea Bay, the ~

Mount Everest of wreck diving
the Andrea Doria is considered the ~

Mount Everest of surfing waves
Pipeline is the ~ (North Shore of Oahu)

Mount Everest of the yachting universe
Cape Horn is regarded as the ~

regarded as the Mount Everest
Cape Horn is ~ of the yachting universe

♦ "It's really the center of the surfing universe. It's like Mount Everest for surfers everywhere. And Pipeline is really the wave one needs to come to terms with as a surfer in order to be considered a great surfer." (Shaun Tomson.)

superlative: mountains & hills / place

size / danger / difficulty, easiness & effort: epithet /
mountains & hills / place

epithet: mountains & hills

mounting

mounting (medical) bills
he needs to protect himself from ~

mounting concern
in response to ~ over…

mounting criticism
he had to address the ~

mounting debt
a network of lies and ~s

mounting (public and congressional) doubts
there are ~ about the war

mounting evidence
~ suggests that…

mounting pile
a ~ of invitations

mounting scandal
a ~ over accusations that... (church)

**increase & decrease:** pile

**Mount Rushmore**

Mount Rushmore of heavyweights

if there were a ~, it would have the likenesses of...

**superlative:** allusion / place / mountains & hills

**mouse (size)**

mouse lemur

~s are the planet's smallest primates (Madagascar)

**size:** animal

**mouth (entrance)**

mouth of a cave

8 Delacour's langurs scampered into the ~ (Vietnam)

mouth of the cave

piles of breakdown at the ~

mouth of a (hanging) valley

the ~ generally discharges a waterfall

tunnel's mouth

his office at the ~ (Mont Blanc)

cave mouth

salamanders also live under rocks near ~s

goal mouth

moving quickly from post to post in the ~ (ice hockey)

river mouth

sea snakes can be found near ~s

**resemblance:** mouth

**mouth (speech)**

speaks out of both sides of his mouth

he ~

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty:** mouth

speech: mouth

**mouthpiece (noun)**

loyal mouthpiece

she was a ~ (president’s press secretary)

**sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty:** mouth

speech: mouth

**mouthwatering (adjective)**

looks mouth-watering

a bout at a catchweight ~ (boxing)

**eagerness & reluctance:** bodily process / food & drink

**mouthy (adjective)**

mouthy

he's ~

**speech:** mouth

**move (move an inch, etc.)**

move an inch

I wouldn't ~ (negotiations)

**resistance, opposition & defeat:** movement / verb

**move (take action)**

move on this
gentlemen, we need to ~ (reaction to plot)

move aggressively

many universities felt they had to ~ (online education)

got to move

we've ~ (act)

**action, inaction & delay:** movement / verb

**move (direction)**

moving in a different direction

we're ~ (an investigation)

move in that direction

it is in everyone's interest to ~ (diplomacy)

moving in a different direction

we're ~ (an investigation)

move in that direction

it is in everyone's interest to ~ (diplomacy)

**direction:** movement / verb

**move (progress)**

moved beyond race

America has largely ~ (opinion)

move forward

we can't ~ until you send your answers back (US census)

moving forward

things are ~ and they're moving quickly (many projects)

we are ~ with solutions on many issues (politics)

moving a little too fast

maybe we've been ~ (relationship)

**progress & lack of progress:** journeys & trips / movement / verb

**move (chess move, etc.)**

chess moves

with a couple of ~', the CIA changed Iran’s history (1953)

move towards authoritarianism

critics called the vote a ~ (Hugo Chávez)

career move

one of the best ~s I ever made

genius move

playing that card was no ~ (father's influence)
career-ending move
  it was considered a ~
unprecedented move
  in an ~
get-tough move
  in the latest ~
bold move
  it was regarded as an unusually ~
dangerous move
  it was a politically bold and ~ (gay marriage)
extraordinary move
  removing a commander in combat is an ~
latest (get-tough) move
  in the ~
next move
  commanders have been forced to rethink their ~
  now we await the ~ from House Democrats (politics)
poor political move
  this is a ~ (Republicans)
risky move
  he testified in his own defense, a potentially ~ (trial)
smart move
  it’s just not a ~ (celebration resulting in a penalty)
strategic move
  this was a ~ (an airline merger)

strategy: cards / chess / sports & games

move (move up)

move up in the world
  he is ~ (affluence, power)

progress & lack of progress: movement / direction / verb

movement (progress)

little movement
  there has been ~ in the negotiations

progress & lack of progress: movement

move on (resiliency)

move on
  let's just ~ (end of a relationship)
  we’ve got to ~ (put the church controversy behind)
  we need to close the book on this and ~
  we want to close this dark chapter of our history and ~
  it’s time to put this behind us and ~ (Muller report)
moved on
  Nina had ~ (after end of relationship)
move on with your life
  you need to ~ (encouragement)
move on with our lives

we’ve got to put this behind us and ~ (disaster)
move on to other areas
  I’m going to ~ that need discussion
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement / verb
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: journeys & trips / movement / verb
resiliency: journeys & trips / movement / verb

move on (change the subject, etc.)

move on to other areas
  I’m going to ~ that need discussion
move on to a different story
  let me ~ (ABC news interview)
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips / movement / verb

mud (drag something through the mud)
dragged the city’s reputation through the mud
  he has ~ (false allegation of hate crime)
dragged through the mud
  the doctors in the case have been ~ (criticism)

accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land / verb
reputation: ground, terrain & land / verb

mud (sink in the mud)

mud of defeat
  the US is sinking into the ~ (Iraqi spokesman on war)
sinking into the mud
  the US is ~ of defeat (Iraqi spokesman on war)

obstacle & impedance: ground, terrain & land / verb
progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land / verb

mud (in the mud)
in the mud
  we’re all ~ and have to get dirty (intelligence)
  ♦ “You cannot catch rats without going into the sewers.” (A British spy.)

behavior: ground, terrain & land

mudslinging (noun)
mudslinging
  they both seem to prefer ~ (politicians)
mudslinging between rival factions
  ~ is being waged out in the open (catholic church)
name-calling and mud-slinging
  ~ (politicians)

accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land

muffled

muffled
A Dictio
nary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor

Page 421 of 982

Australia’s conversation has been ~ by defamation laws (sex abuse)

costRAINT & lack oF constraint: speech

Muhammad Ali (epithet)

Muhammed Ali of her generation
Megan Rapinoe is the ~
her generation’s Muhammad Ali
Megan Rapinoe is ~
younger generation’s Muhammad Ali
Nike supports the ~ (Colin Kaepernick)

ability & lack of ability: boxing / epithet / sports & games
superlativE: boxing / sports & games
resistance, opposition & defeat: boxing / epithet / sports & games
epithet: boxing / sports & games

mule (drug mule, etc.)
mule profile
he fit the ~ (busted drug courier at airport)
drug mule
Iranian ~s fly into Dubai every few months

transportation: animal
mule-headed
mule-headed
he is ~ (stubborn)

character & personality: animal
multiplier (force multiplier)
acts as a force multiplier
Fox TV ~ for President Trump

increase & decrease: military / number
multipronged
multipronged effort
this is a ~
multipronged scheme
the suit claims the pair of companies carried out a ~

branching system: horn

murk (in / amid the murk)
amid the murk
it's hard to find clarity ~
in the murk of the conflict
he is a beacon of moral truth ~ (Middle East)
in the murk of history
he is a shadowy figure lost ~
in the murk of the situation
I got lost ~

perception, perspective & point of view: water / light & dark

murk (other)
cultural and political murk
investigators have been slowed by the ~ (Middle East)

perception, perspective & point of view: water / light & dark

murky (adjective)
murky problem
what to do with pirates has become a ~ (Somalia)
murkier question
you get into the ~ of whether there are other factors at play
murky world
foreign women working in the ~ of the bar trade (Japan)
still murky
exactly what happened is ~
remain murky
though the facts ~... (criminal case)
remains murky
even now, the source of the problems ~

certainty & uncertainty: light & dark / water
comprehension & lack of comprehension: light & dark / water

perception, perspective & point of view: water / light & dark

muscle (political muscle, etc.)
muscle-flexing
~ by Pakistan’s armed forces
geopolitical muscle
Iran is increasingly flexing its ~s

government muscle
the Eastern Band has visibly flexed its ~ (Cherokee)
they use their ~ to scare Republicans
economic and political muscle
unions once had ~

flex its muscles
North Korea might ~

flexing its muscles
the religious right is ~ in the corridors of power

flexing its (geopolitical) muscles
Iran is increasingly ~

flexing their muscles
California politicians are ~ on the national stage

✓ You got so many kids out here acting crazy, wanting to flex some muscle. They don’t have respect for life.” (South Los Angeles resident, commenting on spate of gang killings.)

force / power: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

muscle (verb)
muscled its way through the Midwest
the storm ~ (tornadoes and rain)

force / power: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

force: movement

museum (noun)

museum of agriculture

the EU is a ~ (according to US ambassador)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antiques

past & present: antiques

mushroom (verb)

mushroom into a (strategic) blunder

this is a tactical mistake that will ~ (a company's decision)

mushroomed in Zambia

anti-Chinese sentiment has ~ since 2005

♦ In Asheville, North Carolina, mushrooms truly DO mushroom after a period of rainy, damp weather. They spring up in patches, can be quite colorful, and some of them can be quite large.

appearance & disappearance: plant / verb

musical chairs

musical chairs at the Justice Department

~ (acting attorney general due to be replaced)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sports & games

muster (pass muster)

passes (constitutional) muster

a judge will decide if the law ~

judgment: military / verb

muster (muster courage, etc.)

muster the courage

republicans must ~ to stand up

assembling: military / verb

mute (speech)

mute

he remained ~

ability & lack of ability: speech

mutinous (adjective)

mutinous mood

workers are in a ~

mutinous homeowners

~ are trying to secede from the town

resistance, opposition & defeat: boat

allegiance, support & betrayal: boat

mutiny (noun)

mutiny against her teachers

the 9-year-old girl contacted Johnny Depp to lead a ~

mutiny among (federal) judges

the verdict is so outrageous that is has produced a ~

mutiny among taxpayers

high taxes set off a ~

World Cup mutiny

Anelka was involved in the ~ (against the coach)

provoked a mutiny

he ~ (a boss, of his employees)

resistance, opposition & defeat: boat

allegiance, support & betrayal: boat

muzzle (verb)

muzzle dissent

they are seeking to ~

constraint & lack of constraint: animal / verb

speech: mouth / verb

myopia (noun)

this ~ can be cured by leadership (shortsightedness)

myopia of (modern democratic) politics

the ~ is all too obvious (the near term, quick fixes, short-termism)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

future: eye

myopic (adj)

myopic policymaking

this kind of ~ was dubbed the “political-business cycle”

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

future: eye

myth (noun)

myths about trauma and sexual offences

there are a number of ~

bolster the myth

this has helped to ~ that children… (intersexed)

perpetuate (dangerous) myths

he comments ~ (opinion on transgender athletes)

bound up in the myths

Indians are ~ white Americans have created

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

mythology (noun)

family mythology

this Paradise Lost kind of ~ (formerly rich family)

bases: religion
nadir (at the nadir)

at a nadir
his popularity was ~ (a politician)
at its nadir
the team is ~ (losing)
at their nadir
in 2009, stock prices were ~
at the nadir of the (financial) crisis
~, gold was a safe haven (investment)
at the nadir of a bad economy
the store opened ~
at the nadir of his tenure
he finds himself ~ (a politician)
reached their nadir
house prices have not yet ~ (falling)

decline: astronomy
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy

nadir (since the nadir)

since the (recession's) nadir
~ in 2009, things have improved
decline: astronomy
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy

nadir (other)
nadir of his career
the ~ came after… (Frank Sinatra)
nadir of education
the late sixties were surely the ~ (US)
nadir in (US) history
his presidency was the ~ (politics)
economic nadir
they have taken us to this ~ (politics)
political nadir
the government has reached a ~

hit a nadir
sales have ~

hit its nadir
the population of panthers ~ in the 1980s (Florida)

decline: astronomy
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy

nail (nail something)
nailed it
you ~ (correct answer)
nailed (several huge) jumps

he ~ and a spock 540
nailed a (48-yard) field goal
he ~ (football)

success & failure: nail / verb

nail (nail somebody)
nail this guy
we need more evidence to ~ (police)

pursuit, capture & escape: nail / verb

nail-biting (fingernails)
nail-biting experience
the space repair was a ~ for NASA
nail-biting thriller
it's a ~ (a TV show)

feeling, emotion & effect: finger / gesture

nail down (gain)
nail down the agreement
she helped to ~ between… (government)

success & failure: nail / verb

nail down (settle)
nail down the facts
it was very hard to ~
nailed down her proofs
Evans ~ (concerning undulant fever)

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: nail / verb

naked (unadorned)
naked abuse
this is ~ of power (politics)
naked aggression
lies, deceit and ~ (Saddam Hussein)
naked bigotry
the ~ (Muslims murder 4 Pakistani female nurses)
naked discrimination
their marginalization is due to ~ (an ethnic group)
naked self-interest
~ among budding lawyers (university)
naked truth
what I believe to be the ~ (identity of murderer)

concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories
appearance & reality: clothing & accessories

naked (substance)
naked
our leaders are ~
This reminds us of the 1837 story "The Emperor's New Clothes" by Hans Christian Andersen, about the child who exclaimed, "The King has no clothes!"

substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories

naked (protection)
	naked to the elements
	they were ~

technology & lack of technology: clothing & accessories

left us naked

death of their air-defence radars ~

goodname: reputation

name (reputation)

name
	his ~ is dirt

bad name

his comments give boxing a ~ (Deontay Wilder)

big enough name

he was still a ~ that his latest book sold well, but...

good name

the company has a ~

clear his name

he has vowed to ~ (a politician)

clear my name

I’m here today to ~ and restore my reputation (fired coach)

• "A name doesn’t spoil a man, but a man can spoil a name." (A Finnish proverb.)

• Life is for one generation; a good name is forever. (Japan.)

• "You have blackened our name. Kill yourself and clean our shame or we will kill you first." (Text message to a 17-year-old Turkish girl in Southeast Anatolia from one of her uncles. She had taken a boyfriend.)

• The Howards and the Turners; the Hatfield and the McCoys; the Frenches and Eversoles; the Martins and Tollivers; the Bakers and Howards... (Famous Appalachian family feuds.)

• "Don’t get me wrong: I have nothing against the Campbells, but I would not stay a night in the company of one." (Said by a MacDonald recently, referring to a massacre of MacDonalds by Campbells after the Campbells had accepted the MacDonalds’ hospitality. The murders took place in 1692.)

reputation: proper name

name-check (verb)

name-checked you
	he President has ~, called you a rat (NPR)

• This merely means to mention somebody’s name.

attention, scrutiny & promotion: person / verb

nanny (person)

nanny state

people expect the ~ to do everything for them (Brexit)

dependency: baby / family / person

nap (noun)

taking a nap

the GOP is ~ somewhere (politics)

action, inaction & delay: sleep

consciousness & awareness: sleep

Napoleon (of surgery, etc.)

Napoleon of Surgery

on June 26, 1870, ‘the ~’ died (James Syme)

ability & lack of ability: epithet

epithet: military

narcotic

narcotic

rising profits were a ~ that affect everyone

primordial narcotic

salt is the ~

feeling, emotion & effect: addiction / health & medicine

narrow (breadth)

narrow lead

he holds a ~ over his opponent (election)

narrow win

the US survived with a ~ over Spain (World Cup soccer)

size: breadth

narrow-minded (adjective)

narrow-minded

he is ~

mind: breadth

narrowness (noun)

ideological narrowness

~ is a threat to intellectual openness

mind: breadth

nascent (beginning)

nascent campaign

kindness and decency is the central thrust of his ~ (politics)

growth & development: baby / birth

nature (force of nature)

force of nature

she is a wonderful woman, a ~ (Canadian innocence project)

amount & effect: storm

character & personality: storm

navigate (verb)

navigate the (bureaucratic) maze

workers whose only job is to ~ (Sudan)

navigate the (tangled health-care) maze

it’s difficult to ~ (immigrants)

navigate the (DMV) process

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 424 of 982
he coached applicants on how to ~ (crooked lawyer)
navigate the terrain
  he knows how to ~ (philosophy)
navigate a (dense) thicket
  Netflix is trying to ~ of challenges
navigate the threat
  they are forced to ~ of rape daily (girls in South Africa)
direction: boat / journeys & trips / map / verb

**navigation (cyberspace)**

ease of navigation
  great content and ~ (a Web site)
direction / computer: boat

**nearsighted**
nearsighted
  the committee members are ~ (Nobel Peace Prize)
corporate America is ~
nearsighted and ill-informed
  most Americans are ~

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

**neck (save one’s neck)**

save his neck
  nothing he can do will ~

save his own neck
  he is doing anything he can to ~ (death row)

dead & life: neck

survival, persistence & endurance: neck
  fate, fortune & chance: neck

**neck (up to one’s neck)**

up to their necks in clutter
  they are ~

up to his neck in corruption
  everyone’s ~ around here (illegal logging / Siberia)

buried up to my neck
  I was ~ in debt

involvement: neck

**neck (fate)**

neck
  my ~ is on the chopping block (accountability)

stick their necks out
  people don’t want to ~ (buying decisions)

stick your neck out
  if you ~, you might get your head cut off (Mexican politics)

fate, fortune & chance: neck

**neck (pain in the neck)**

pain in the neck
  rebuilding it will be a ~ (damaged overpass)
  what a ~
pain in my neck
  she was often a ~

affliction: health & medicine / neck / sensation

**neck (oppression)**

neck of the people
  as the boot is removed from the ~ (Saddam’s regime)

oppression: neck

**neck (area)**

Chicken’s Neck
  the Siliguri Corridor, or the ~ (India)

area: shape
shape: neck

**neck and neck (adjective)**

neck and neck with the Yankees
  they are ~ (a baseball team)

competition: horse

**necklace**

necklace of islands
  to the east was a long ~ known as the Lau Group

necklace of sensors
  an electronic ~ (traffic management in urban areas)
environmental necklace
  an ~ of sensors (traffic management in urban areas)

configuration: clothing & accessories

**needle (verb)**

needled Republicans about why
  he ~ the resolution… (politics)

affliction: sensation / verb
speech: sensation / verb

**needle (move the needle, etc.)**

move the needle
  these ads can ~ if executed correctly (social consciousness)

move the needle from A to B
  legislators have the power to ~ (regulation of social media)

move the (moral-outrage) needle
  it takes a lot to ~

moved the needle against social inequality
  these philanthropists haven’t ~

moving this needle forward
  black women are ~ (protesting a policy)
needle seems (kind of) stuck
the ~ to me (on progress)

feeling, emotion & effect: tools & technology / verb
effect: tools & technology / verb
action, inaction & delay: tools & technology / verb
progress & lack of progress: tools & technology / verb

needle (shape)
bullets, needles, prisms, columns
snowflakes come in shapes: ~, stars, cups, and plates
shape: cloth

needle (needle in a haystack)
needle in a haystack
they found a ~ (searchers for body of missing girl)

needle in a haystack of nothing
my blog was a ~

found a needle in a haystack
they ~ (searchers for body of missing girl)

looking for a needle in a haystack
these poor scientists were ~ (viruses back in the day)
♦ “Someone said it’s kind of like looking for a needle in a haystack—only right now, the haystack is covered with snow.” (Winter search for body of missing woman.)
♦ In August, 2008, two-year-old Emmett Trapp wandered off into the desert. Many wished to look for him, but officials refused offers of help, saying only they were qualified to search, based on their training. After 40 hours, the little boy was found by a citizen who had disregarded the officials. The boy was just outside the official search zone, which had been combed over and over. He was only about a mile from his home.

searching & discovery: tools & technology

negotiate (terrain, etc.)
negotiated the (rocky) terrain
she adeptly ~ of the New York publishing world
direction: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / verb

neighborhood (in the neighborhood)
in the neighborhood of 3,000
most scholars believe that the actual number is ~
proximity: house

nemesis (noun)
sees her as its nemesis
the banking lobby ~ (politics)
♦ Nemesis was the Greek Goddess of divine retribution, revenge and justice.
punishment & recrimination: allusion / religion

nerve (anxiety)

war of nerves
how soldiers cope with the ~ (waiting for combat)
nerves are shot
her ~, she has no confidence (Wimbledon)
nerves can become frayed
~ in the blasting Antarctic winds
calm his nerves
he lit a cigarette to ~
calm people’s nerves
he appeared on TV to ~ (trade war)
♦ Andy: Barney, you've just GOT to control your nerves. (The Andy Griffith Show. Barney was comically excitable.)

feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

nerve (strike a nerve, etc.)
raw nerve
her epic fail is still a ~ among Democrats
hit a nerve
the tweet ~ for doctors (from NRA)

hit a Russian raw nerve
the German report ~ (about Kursk Battle)
struck a nerve
her article ~ (rant against obese people)
struck a (raw) nerve
the incident ~ in Haiti (foreign adoptions)
struck a (growing anti-bullying) nerve
his death ~ in America (suicide)
touched a (raw) nerve
the withdrawal ~ (troops give up area)
effect / feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

nerve (courage)
lose our nerve
terrorists can win if we ~ and abandon our mission (Iraq)

lost his nerve
one intended suicide bomber ~ (Casablanca)
shatter (the enemy's) nerve
the objective is to ~ (shock and violence)

get up
it has taken me 11 years to ~ to come here...
courage & lack of courage: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

nerveless (adjective)
nerveless Stosur
a ~ dominated the match (tennis)
feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

nerve-racking
nerve-racking
it was ~
feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone
nest (mortar nest, etc.)

sniper's nest
  a hole was carved in the trunk to create a ~
  he transformed his hotel room into an elaborate ~

mortar nest
  Marines are destroying Iraqi ~s and other targets (Iraq)
machine-gun nest
  a ~
  place: animal / bird / military

nest (empty nest)
"empty nest" parents
  place: animal / bird

nest egg
nest egg
  at age 69, he had a ~ (retirement savings)
money: animal / bird

nestled
nestled on the Black Sea
  this regional capital ~ (Trabzon, Turkey)

nestled between Bhutan and Nepal
  Sikkim is a jewel ~
  configuration: animal / bird

net (cast a net)
cast a (wide) net
  they have not yet ~ (a criminal investigation)
casting a very broad net
  it is a fishing expedition for information, ~
cast a (wide) net for the assassins
  police ~ (bus / rail / plane, etc.)
  pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb

netherworld (noun)
disappeared into the netherworld
  he ~ of Egyptian jails
  environment / society: direction
  concealment & lack of concealment: direction

neuter (verb)
neutered blogging
  social media ~ as a mode of online expression

neuter (if not destroy) trade unions
  the legislation was designed to ~
  attenuation: health & medicine
  force: health & medicine
  strength & weakness: health & medicine

neutral (in neutral)
in neutral
  uncertainty is keeping the economy ~
  activity: mechanism

never-never land
never-never land Britain
  she set her novels in a ~, massively elitist (Christie)
  ♦ This is an allusion to Peter Pan.
fantasy & reality: allusion
  environment: allusion

newborn
"newborn" country
  Kosova, the ~

newborn league
  the ~ is fighting for its life (soccer / US)
growth & development: baby

new school
new school / old school
  a classic ~ rift (newer kayaking moves)
past & present: school & education

next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
next Steve Jobs
  she was supposed to be the ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)
sequence: epithet / prep, adv, adj, particle
  primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: epithet / prep, adv, adj, particle

Niagara (the river and falls)
Niagara of vitriol
  it was a ~ (a rock interview)
amount & effect: ground, terrain & land / river / water

nibble (destroy)
nibbling away at land and vital infrastructure
  coastal erosion is ~ (remote Air Force radar stations)
destruction: animal / food & drink / predation / verb

nibble (noun)
got a nibble
  he finally ~ from a potential employee
  pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb

night (death)
go (gently) into that good night
  do not ~ (Dylan Thomas)
death & life: day / sign, signal, symbol
**nightmare (worst nightmare)**

worst nightmare
the ~ a parent could endure (missing kid found dead)
girl's worst nightmare
it's every ~ (getting pregnant accidentally)
industry's worst nightmare
shoppers like her are the supermarket ~
mother's worst nightmare
as a teen, she was every ~ (drugs, sex, etc.)
parent's worst nightmare
every ~ (child kidnapping, murder)
my worst nightmare
this was ~ (emergency landing in plane)

**feeling, emotion & effect: sleep**

**nightmare (noun)**

nightmare
you're seeing shyness as a ~ and it can be…
she talks about her ~ (rape)
traveling alone with young kids can be a ~ (airlines)
she sees her ~ unfolding before her (traffic jam)
it's been a ~ (affirmative action for fire department)
he soon discovered the job was a ~
shopping for school clothes can be a ~ (girls)
the ~ was not over (one more round / boxing)
the ~ began with an e-mail (hackers extort company)
nightmare of all firefighters
structural collapse is the ~
nightmare of (loose) granite
a ~ and overhanging seracs (Dhaulagiri)
nightmare of Sept. 11
nearly a year after the ~, kids still…
nightmare scenario
the ~ for NATO
the ~ for many biologists, conservationists
that's a ~ for those… (politics)
nightmare year
it was a ~ (teaching at troubled D.C. school)
nightmare first round
they horribly underachieved in a ~ (World Cup)
credit nightmare
divorce can create ~s
examination nightmare
but would it be an ~ (scheduling school tests)
traffic nightmare
the city festival will cause a ~
parking and traffic nightmares
residents living near the popular club face ~
public-relations nightmare

they are fighting a ~ (restaurant chain)
horrifying nightmare
blind dates are either a huge success or a ~
living nightmare
he described his life as a "~" (paralysed neck down)
scheduling nightmare
family events can become a ~
annual nightmare
the ~ of Christmas cards
bureaucratic nightmare
he found himself in a ~
complete nightmare
it's turned into a ~ (trapped at airport by blizzard)
concave nightmare
a ~ of loose granite, overhanging seracs (Dhaulagiri)
Kafkaesque nightmare
my ~ is to be...
legal nightmare
it was the beginning of a ~
a ~ arises (Jehovah's Witnesses and doctors)
logistical nightmare
getting a force that size into Iraq by air would be a ~
the Haj is a ~ (Makkah / Saudi Arabia)
resupply was a ~ (Egyptians fight in Yemen)
nuclear nightmare
India has revived the ~ (nuclear tests)
racial nightmare
turning the trial into a ~
ultimate nightmare
"brilliant" bombs strike some as the ~
18-hour nightmare
it turned into an ~ (Mogadishu firefight)
beginning of a (legal) nightmare
it was the ~
start of the nightmare
yeah, that was the ~ (security arrest)
dream and nightmare
every surfer's ~ (Condition Black / huge surf)
nightmare arises
a legal ~ (Jehovah's Witnesses and doctors)
nightmare began
his ~ with a phone call from…
nightmare (finally) coming to an end
is the ~ (politics)
found himself in a nightmare
he ~ (bureaucracy)
make commuting (by train) a nightmare
the gropers who ~ for women (in Japan)
turned into an (18-hour) nightmare
it ~ (Mogadishu firefight)
turned the dream into a nightmare
the loans have ~ (home ownership)
♦ A find-yourself-standing-naked-in-Times-Square-type nightmare...

feeling, emotion & effect: sleep

nightmarish (adjective)
nightmarish scene
it was a ~ (125-vehicle pileup that killed four)
nightmarish thoughts
~ about…

feeling, emotion & effect: sleep

nimble

nimble
the security system is not ~ enough (border)
nimble negotiating
Egypt had distinguished itself for ~ (the past)
nimble mind
he has a ~
nimble and aggressive
the company vowed to be more ~ (layoffs)
nimble, tough-minded and effective
we need government that is ~
lean and nimble
the company must become more ~
remain nimble
we must ~ (military)
keep your mind nimble
you need to ~

ability & lack of ability: body

nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.)

Australia's 9/11
in many ways, it is ~ (Bali bomb blast)

subterfuge: allusion / epithet / history
epithet: history / military

Noah's Ark

Noah's Ark of (exotic) wildlife
the Berenty Reserve is a ~ (Madagascar)
modern-day Noah’s Ark
Norway’s Global Seed Vault is a ~ for plant seeds

biodiversity: allusion / Bible / epithet / religion

nod (agree)

heads nod

there are days when I see ~ (defense of Facebook)

judgment: gesture / head / verb

nod (refer)
nods to Ralph Ellison
the chapter ~ (Colin Whitehead)

achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / verb

no-holds-barred
no-holds-barred conversation
it was a ~

restraint & lack of restraint: sports & games / wrestling

noise (data)

noise
trying to pick out the signal from the ~ (epidemiology)
a lot of extraordinary data are nothing but ~
there has been a lot of ~ and trending on Twitter about...

"noise" in the data
~ makes the new results dubious (earthquakes)
noise in the system
there's going to be some ~ (way to produce statistics)
separate the signal from the noise
~ (when considering President Trump)
integrate, unify, and make simple the (apparent) noise
he wants to ~ of the world (Karl Friston)
rise above the noise
artists need to ~ and stand out (TikTok)
♦ This word is similar to static.

activity: sound

analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound / tools & technology
obstacles & impedance: sound

nomad (person)
nomads of the agriculture world
beekeepers are the ~
academic nomad
she's become an ~ (adjunct professor)
railroad nomad
"shantytown," a word evoking ~s…
Greyhound nomads
they arrived as ~ (Somali refugees in Lewiston)
become an academic nomad
she's ~ (adjunct professor)

migration: person / journeys & trips
person: journeys & trips

no man's land (people)

No Man's Land
no man’s land (war and violence)

no-man’s-land
murders and kidnappings make the district a ~
bureaucratic no man’s land
he found himself in a ~ amid 3 agencies
regulatory no man’s land
oil-exploration waste falls into a ~
left charities in no man’s land
the error in funding has ~

environment: military
control & lack of control: military / history

noose (fate)

noose
the ~ is tightening (manhunt)
the ~ is tightening around him (a dictator)

noose around Baghdad
we’re tightening the ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

noose around my neck
for six months the media had a ~ (Van Gaal at Man U)

global financial noose
the ~ is tightening around Iran (sanctions)

legal noose
the newspaper is putting its head in a ~ (libel)

noose is tightening
the ~ (manhunt)

tightening the noose
we’re ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
they are ~ but we will fight to the end (protestors)

fate, fortune & chance: death & life

North Korea (epithet)

North Korea of Africa
Eritrea is often described as the ~

Africa’s North Korea
why Eritrea is called ~ (The Economist magazine)

♦ The Economist has a wonderful article entitled “Why Eritrea is called Africa’s North Korea” (August 14th 2018). It is wonderful because it starts out with how Eritrea is NOT like North Korea.

isolation & remoteness: epithet

noose (shape)

Nose
a popular routes is “The ~” (rock climbing)
note (right note)
struck (all) the right notes
the words he spoke ~ (a conciliatory politician)

flaws & lack of flaws: music / speech
note (note of caution, etc.)
note of caution
he sounded a ~ over encouraging…

note of confidence
he is injecting a new ~ into the Nato campaign

note of fear
in his voice I detected a ~ (dangerous weather)

cautious note
he sounded a ~ at the meeting

defiant note
he is injecting a ~ of confidence into the Nato campaign

optimistic note
he struck an ~

detected a note
in his voice I ~ of fear (dangerous weather)

injecting a (new) note
he is ~ of confidence into the Nato campaign

sounded a note of caution
he ~ over encouraging…

struck (all) the right notes
the words he spoke ~ (a conciliatory politician)

feeling, emotion & effect: sound
nothing-burger

nothing-burger
they claim the meeting was a ~ (political scandal)

biggest nothing-burger ever
she called it the ~ (political scandal)

big, fat nothingburger
is the memo a damning expose or a ~ (politics)

importance & significance: food & drink
substance & lack of substance: food & drink
nourished

nourished by the media
sports are ~

growth & development: baby / plant
nowhere (go nowhere, etc.)

getting nowhere
we are ~ fast

going nowhere
the peace process is ~ anyway
negotiations are ~ (politics)

get anywhere
if you’re worried about the outcome, you don’t ~ (sports)

progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / verb
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips

nowhere (out of nowhere)

out of nowhere
he had himself a career day ~ (football)

came out of nowhere
the team ~ (winning in the NCAA tournament)

appearance & disappearance: air / atmosphere / sky

noxious (adjective)

noxious (online) behaviors
stalking and bullying are ~ (Internet)

noxious law
we need to repeal this ~

noxious tide
we need to stem the ~ of ideologically-driven rhetoric

noxious (racial) views
this book connects his ~ to his foreign policy

bigoted and noxious
the film is ~

♦ Literally, this word tends to collocate with fumes, chemicals and smoke. In other word, smells.

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation
consciousness & awareness: sensation

number (noun)

number came up
my ~ (blown up by a landmine)

fate, fortune & chance: number

numbered

numbered
Mubarak’s days are ~

fate, fortune & chance: number

nurture (verb)

nurtured his student’s career
he ~ and became a second father (a coach)

nurture (militant) groups
Pakistan ~ in the area

nurtured her iconoclasm
her parents encouraged her ambitions and ~ (musician)

nurtured her interest
it was he who first ~ in art

nurture the (infant) market
~ (e-publishing)

nurtured relationships
he ~ with members of the faculty (journal editor)

nurtured a reputation
Japanese companies have ~ for reliability (products)

nurture civil society
education helps to ~

nurture, protect, love
the essence of motherhood is to ~

tap, feed and nurture
he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)

growth & development: baby / plant / verb

nurtured

nurtured by the West
he is a criminal ~ (an award winner)

nurtured by his father
his ideas about cooking were ~

nurtured by his mother
his early interest in poetry was ~

numb (adjective)

numb with grief
she and others who knew her best felt ~ (murdered)

became numb
he ~ to even the most gruesome scenes (a marine)

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation
consciousness & awareness: sensation

number (noun)

number came up
my ~ (blown up by a landmine)

fate, fortune & chance: number

numbered

numbered
Mubarak’s days are ~

fate, fortune & chance: number

nurture (verb)

nurtured his student’s career
he ~ and became a second father (a coach)

nurture (militant) groups
Pakistan ~ in the area

nurtured her iconoclasm
her parents encouraged her ambitions and ~ (musician)

nurtured her interest
it was he who first ~ in art

nurture the (infant) market
~ (e-publishing)

nurtured relationships
he ~ with members of the faculty (journal editor)

nurtured a reputation
Japanese companies have ~ for reliability (products)

nurture civil society
education helps to ~

nurture, protect, love
the essence of motherhood is to ~

tap, feed and nurture
he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)

growth & development: baby / plant / verb

nurtured

nurtured by the West
he is a criminal ~ (an award winner)

nurtured by his father
his ideas about cooking were ~

nurtured by his mother
his early interest in poetry was ~
carefully nurtured
he was ~ by the club (young soccer player)

growth & development: baby / plant

nut (person)

religious nut
he’s a ~ (controversial politician)

character & personality: fruits & vegetables / mental health / person

nuts (crazy)

nuts
but what's really ~ is insisting that…

behavior: fruits & vegetables / mental health

nuts and bolts

nuts and bolts
take me through the ~ about how this is going to work

bases / functioning: mechanism

nutshell (in a nutshell)
in a nutshell
that’s it, ~ (short and sweet)
this is Atkinson ~ (review of a writer)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: food & drink

O

oak (Royal Oak, etc.)

Royal Oak
the ~ battleship was sunk by a U-boat in Scapa Flow

proper name: tree

oak (strength)

Hearts of Oak
the British have ~

strength & weakness: materials & substances / tree

Oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)

Oasis of the Seas
the ~ is the world’s largest cruise ship

Oasis Hotel
the ~ has 8 awards of excellence (Cairo)

proper name: desert / ground, terrain & land

oasis (environment)
oasis
Somaliland is an ~ in comparison to Somalia

oasis of (relative) calm
it provides an ~ within Iraq (Kurdish region)
oasis of peace
it was once an ~ in volatile West Africa (Ivory Coast)
oasis within New York City
Park Slope, Brooklyn, is an ~ (parks, families, etc.)
oasis for (late-night) customers
we are an ~ (White Castle)
jungle oases
a civilization grew near these ~ (cenotes / Mayas)
green oasis
New York City's High Line is a ~ (elevated walkway)
peaceful oasis
Bali was considered a ~ (before Kuta Beach bombing)
spiritual oasis
Cloud Cottage Sangha is a ~ for me (Buddhist)
considered a (peaceful) oasis
Bali was ~ (before Kuta Beach bombing)

environment: desert / ground, terrain & land

oats (feel one’s oats)

feeling its oats
China is ~ (booming economy)

power: animal / horse

strength & weakness: animal / horse

Obama (Russia’s Obama, etc.)

Russia’s Obama
Jean Gregoire Sagbo is known as ~

superlative: epithet / government

obsessed

politically obsessed
for those of us who are ~ (pundits)

enthusiasm: mental health

ocean

ocean of air
we live submerged at the bottom of an ~ (atmosphere)
ocean of sand
the Sahara’s ~

resemblance: sea

odd couple

odd couple
this ~ makes for a compelling violin concerto

character & personality: love, courtship & marriage

relationship: love, courtship & marriage

ode (praise)

ode to cinema
his film is an ~ as a whole (Cannes hype)
ode to historically black colleges
  her performance was an ~ (Beyoncé at 2018 Coachella)

achievement, recognition & praise: speech

Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.)

Odyssey
  the 75-square-foot solar array that powers ~ (Mars)
  so far, ~ is an unqualified scientific success (Mars)

Mars Odyssey
  the ~ (a NASA Mars probe)

proper name: Iliad & Odyssey

odyssey (on an odyssey)

on an odyssey
  these girls have been ~ (from Sierra Leone to US)

on a (six-day, 900-mile) odyssey
  he claimed she accompanied him ~ (kidnapper)

development: Iliad & Odyssey / journeys & trips

odyssey (other)

odyssey of two (likable) women
  the documentary is the ~

Georgia man's odyssey
  a ~ to Europe... (7 flights with XDR TB)

substance-abuse odyssey
  she began a long ~ by sniffing fingernail polish...

personal odyssey
  the documentary is the ~ of two strong, likable women

remarkable odyssey
  her life traces a ~ from her farmhouse in Poland to...

three-decade odyssey
  his trip turned into a ~

development: Iliad & Odyssey / journeys & trips

off (it is off, etc.)

off
  the game is ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle

offer (verb)

offers audiences a vision
  the latest performance similarly ~ of themselves

giving, receiving, bringing & returning: verb

offspring

offspring of the phone booth
  the ~, referred to as an "enclosure"

product: family

offshoot

offshoot of (Shiite) Islam
  Zaydism is an ~

offshoot of Dutch
  Afrikaans is an ~

Los Angeles offshoot
  the Actor's Lab, a ~ of the Group Theater

latest offshoot
  stand-up paddling is surfing's ~

branching system: plant

oil (pour oil)

poured oil on the fire
  he has ~

increase & decrease: fire / verb

old (of old)

days of old
  in ~

past & present: day

old guard

old guard
  the ~ has yielded the throne (world soccer)

old guard and younger, more liberal members
  this exposes a divide between the ~ (democratic party)

evangelical old guard
  there's a lot at stake for the ~ (gender issues)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: allusion / history

old hand (experience)

newcomers (to the research) versus old hands
  ~ (science)

accepted (as soldiers) by the old hands
  we were being ~

experience: hand

old school

old school
  he is unashamedly ~ (a 68-year-old Montana farmer)

old-school in his approach
  he's as ~ to opponents as he is in the ring

old-school discipline
  he was famous for his ~ (sports coach)

old school 35mm film
  he wanted to deliver his film on ~

old-school mentality
  that's that ~ (comment on boxer's work ethic)
old-school reporter
he was an ~ who would challenge anyone

old-school style
he brings ~ to the sport (auto racer not afraid to bump)

old-school French bistro
a much loved, ~

new school / old school (m)
a classic ~ rift (newer kayaking moves)

past & present: school & education
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: school & education

olive branch
olive branch
it was an ~ from Knight to Alford (dispute)

extended an olive branch to South Korea
he ~

offered an olive branch to the Republicans
in the State of the Union, he ~

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: tree

Olympian (adjective)
Olympian scorn
his reactions to the world ran from dismay to ~

size: allusion / mountains & hills / religion

Olympus (Mount Olympus)
Olympus of sociological research
the University of Chicago was the ~

superlative: allusion / place / mountains & hills / religion

on (it is on, etc.)
on
the summit is back ~

ticks on
Brazil are starting to lose hope as the time ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle

one-size-fits-all
one-size-fits-all approach
the ~ is not the way to go (retirement plans)

one-size-fits-all journalism
we were offering ~ to very different audiences

one-size-fits-all solution
there is no ~ (to managed retreat due to climate change)

adapting: clothing & accessories

one-strike-and-you’re-out
one-strike-and-you’re-out (honor-code) policy
~ do more harm than good

punishment & recrimination: baseball / sports & games

ongoing (investigation, etc.)
going (security) arrangements
ensure ~ are appropriate

ongoing (budget) battle
an ~ between the school system, county

ongoing debate
the ~

ongoing (intratribal) disputes
~ (Native Americans)

ongoing effort
the regulations are part of an ~ to…
this mission is an ~ to take away enemy sanctuaries

ongoing focus
there is an ~ on these economic issues (White House)

ongoing investigation
would compromise the ~

ongoing mission
we don’t comment on ~s (military)

ongoing (contract) negotiations
~ (pilots union)

ongoing plot
forcing terrorists to betray the details of ~s

ongoing (management) problems
the ~

ongoing process
this is going to be an ~

ongoing studies
a number of recent and ~

ongoing theft
the ~ of intellectual property

ongoing violence
against a backdrop of ~ (Middle East)

ongoing work
researchers and their ~

ongoing management problems

ongoing love-hate relationship
the ~ between…

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement
condition & status: movement

onion (noun)
layer of the onion
you notice that for every ~ there’s another underneath it

analysis, interpretation & explanation: fruits & vegetables
onslaught (noun)

onslaught of globalization
many countries resist the ~
under the onslaught
Saudi Arabia melted ~, as Germany... (soccer)

amount & effect: military

opacity (noun)

opacity of (Lanier's) criticism
the ~ may account for...

analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark
comprehension & incomprenhension: light & dark

opaque (adjective)

opaque
it's really very ~ what is happening (revolution)

opaque world
he offers insights into the often ~ of finance

often opaque
he offers insights into the ~ world of finance

analysis, interpretation & explanation: light & dark
consciousness & awareness: light & dark
comprehension & incomprenhension: light & dark

open (open marriage, etc.)

open marriage
they had an ~

constraint & lack of constraint: access & lack of access
restraint & lack of restraint: access & lack of access

open (in / into the open)

into the open
she has brought the issue ~

out in the open
mudslinging between rival church factions is being waged ~

broke out into the open
the anger ~ for the whole world to see (Catholic pedophilia)

concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land
/hunting
consciousness & awareness: ground, terrain & land

open-and-shut

open-and-shut case
it wasn't an ~

it should have been an ~

certainty & uncertainty: books & reading

open-minded (adjective)

open-minded
“T’m ~,” he said softly

people are more ~ now (race)

my neighbors are very ~

we should be more ~

he had tried to be ~

extroverted, unpretentious and open-minded

Tijuana citizens have acquired a reputation for being ~

♦ "A person can be so open-minded that his brains fall out." (A critic, speaking of Thabo Mbeki's willingness to accept any argument against giving antiretrovirals to South African H.I.V. sufferers.)

mind: access & lack of access / container
constraint & lack of constraint: container

openness (noun)

intellectual openness
ideological narrowness is a threat to ~

mind: access & lack of access
constraint & lack of constraint: container

open up (emotions, speech, etc.)

open up
we are asking them to ~ all over again (crime podcast)

opened up about her mother
she finally ~

feeling, emotion & effect: container / verb
speech: container

open up (access)

open up the sportscasting world
~ for women

access & lack of access: container / verb

opera

opera of screeches, shrieks and squawks
a riotous ~ (tropical birds)

sound: music
resemblance: music

opiate (noun)

opiate of the people
sports, not religion, is the ~

consciousness & awareness: addiction / health & medicine

optics (noun)

optics
the ~ look bad (politics)
the ~ are just awful (a newspaper story)

optics of rapprochement

Kim's letter played a part in the ~ (Korean leader)

♦ "It's not the optics that are not good, it's the facts that are not good." (Colorado Republican Congressman Mike Coffman about an ethics issue.)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye / tools & technology
option (nuclear option)
nuclear option for state
this is the ~ (opting out of federal Medicaid)
opposes the (so-called) nuclear option
he ~ (withdrawal of US from Afghanistan)
employ the nuclear option
employers may be forced to ~ (drop health coverage)
oppose the nuclear option
I oppose the ~ (changing rules in Congress)
considered the “nuclear option”
the move was always ~ (Commerce Dept’s entry list)
alternatives & choices: nuclear energy
coercion & motivation: nuclear energy
oracle (person)
oracle of Silicon Valley
he has been nicknamed the ~
♦ The Delphic Oracle was an important priestess in ancient Greece.
future: allusion / person / religion
person: religion
oracle (Oracle Corporation, etc.)
Oracle Corporation
the American multinational ~
proper name: religion
orbit (noun)
in his orbit
the investigation will look at people ~ (politics)
Trump orbit
he never lost touch, that often happens in ~
China’s orbit
Thailand has moved firmly into ~
entered the Trump orbit
she first ~ during the campaign
brought him into the orbit
Juilliard ~ of Wynton Marsalis (Lawrence Leathers)
configuration / proximity: astronomy
bases: movement / astronomy
attraction & repulsion: astronomy
division & connection: astronomy
orchestrate (verb)
orchestrated the assassination
no one knows who ~
orchestrated attacks
he has ~, bombings, kidnappings and beheadings
orchestrate a coverup
they tried to ~
orchestrated a hoax
he may have ~ (false hate-crime allegation)
directing: music / verb
orchestrated
orchestrated campaign
Muslims fear they are the target of an ~ (religion)
orchestrated leads
~ from the White House have exposed rifts
directing: music
orchid (character)
orchid children
“~” are more sensitive and biologically reactive
orchid or a dandelion
is your child an ~
♦ Terms with similar meanings are teacup and snowflake. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a shrinking violet; a pansy, a wallflower. The modern update on that is orchid (versus a dandelion).
character & personality: person / plant
strength & weakness: person / plant
resiliency: person / plant
order (get something in order, etc.)
get your house in order
you must ~
get our (fiscal) house in order
we must ~ (debt)
put his life (back) in order
he saw Islam as a way to ~ (terrorist)
amelioration & renewal: hygiene
orgy
orgy of looting
an ~ followed the collapse of Saddam’s regime
orgy of thrill-seeking and risk taking
a national ~
national orgy
a ~ of thrill-seeking and risk taking
restraint & lack of restraint: sex
original sin
original sin
the ~ was what happened in 1953 (Iran-US relations)
euro’s original sin
perhaps this was the ~ (no penalty for breaking rules)
fate, fortune & chance: religion
orphan (noun)
orphan
the issue is an ~
“orphan” academies
the school has been caught in the twilight zone of ~
orphan diseases
incentives to develop orphan drugs for ~
orphan drugs
incentives for companies to develop “~”
orphan wells
these “~” often sit on farmland (bankrupt oil firms)
* Orphan drugs treat rare diseases affecting fewer than 200,000 people.

Division & connection: family
Relationship: family
Person: family

Orphaned
inactive, abandoned, or orphaned
at least 167,000 wells are ~ (oil)

Division & connection: family
Relationship: family

Orwellian (adjective)

Orwellian agency
the futility of fighting an ~ with an obvious vendetta

Orwellian surveillance system
exporting such an ~ to other countries

Oppression: allusion

Ostracized (society)

Socially ostracized
if you’re truthful, you’ll be ~

Acceptance & rejection: society

Ounce (amount)
ounce of prevention
an ~ is worth a pound of cure

Ounce of truth
there’s not an ~ in anything he says

Amount: weight

Out (leave somebody an out, etc.)
left an out for Iran
he has ~

Pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

Out (outpace, etc.)
outpace, outshine, outweigh, etc.

Superiority & inferiority: affix

Out (currency)
out this year

Short skirts are ~

Primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
Primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj, particle

Out (want out)
wanted out
she ~ (of a marriage)

Allegiance, support & betrayal: container
Allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle

Outcast (person)
social outcast
he is a ~

Outcast and non-conforming
Ibiza has long been an island for the ~

Acceptance & rejection: person / society / throwing, putting & planting

Dismissal, removal & resignation: person / society / throwing, putting & planting

Society: person / throwing, putting & planting
Person: society

Outcry (noun)

Sparked an outcry
his remarks ~ (about racism)

Appeal: speech
Conflict: sound

Outdueled
outdueled by Manning
Romo was ~ (two football quarterbacks)

Conflict: weapon

Outfox (verb)
outfoxed his (political) opponents
he ~

Subterfuge: animal / fox / verb

Outlet (noun)
outlet for (public) criticism
the majlis provides an ~ (Saudi Arabia)

Outlet for their frustrations
people need an ~ (Baghdad gyms)

Outlet or hobby
a creative ~ that fosters a sense of achievement (coping)

Creative outlet
a ~ can do a lot to relieve stress

give people an outlet
the media ~ (TV and radio in Afghanistan)

Amelioration & renewal: pressure
outlier (noun)

outlier
when it comes to free speech, the US is the ~ (too free)

outlier case
why is an ~ like this getting so much oxygen (hoax hate crime)

society: center & periphery
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: center & periphery

outpace (verb)

outpacing the ability
technology is ~ of governments to keep up

superiority & inferiority: verb / walking, running & jumping
competition: verb / walking, running & jumping

outpouring

outpouring of aid
the disaster prompted an ~

outpouring of generosity
the ~ has slowed to a trickle (aid)

outpouring of (new) poems
in his 60s the floodgates opened with an ~ (Geoffrey Hill)

outpouring of sympathy
there has been a tremendous ~ from so many…

outpouring of (both) praise and outrage
her film has drawn an ~

tremendous outpouring
there has been a ~ from so many of you

amount & effect: water

outrider (noun)

hedonistic outriders
he had contempt for modernity and its ~

driving force: horse

outset (from the outset)

from the outset
she had wanted a different approach ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips

outset (at the outset)

at the outset of the (Trojan) War

starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips

outshine (verb)

outshines us in health care
Canada clearly ~

outshine the competition
he continues to ~

outshone everyone else
she ~ onstage (ballet)

outshone his rivals
during the financial crisis, he ~ (a C.E.O.)
he ~ in the first debate (a politician)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / verb
superiority & inferiority: light & dark / verb

outsider (person)

outsider
Trump won because he was an ~
they are ~s banging on the doors of city government

outsiders to the world
~ of money soon notice… (finance)

outsider art
he is well known to fans of ~

political outsider
he presents himself as a ~ who will not represent K Street
he was a ~ (independent politician Ross Perot)

rebellious outsider
he is a ~

weird outsider
he is the ~ who becomes influential (scientist)

♦ The Japanese refer to foreigners as gaijin, literally, “outsider.”

society: center & periphery / person
power: center & periphery / person

outweigh (power)

outweigh us in every department
they ~ (war)

power: weight / verb
superiority & inferiority: verb / weight

outweigh (cost and benefit)

outweighed the bad
the good ~ (in a relationship)

outweigh the deeds
the acts of a few should not ~ of the many (war)

outweigh the risks
the drug is usually safe but benefits must ~

cost & benefit: scale / weight / verb

over (dominance)

over me
I don't want nobody ~

has an advantage over her
he ~ (politics)
hierarchy: position / prep, adv, adj, particle

over (finished)

over
class was finally ~
the Gilded Age of rock journalism is ~
this won’t be ~ anytime soon

starting, going, continuing & ending: prep, adv, adj, particle
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: prep, adv, adj

over (overheated, etc.)

overdose, overweight, overheated, overdone, etc.
flaws & lack of flaws: affix
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: affix

overboard (behavior)
a little overboard
I admit I went ~ (dispute with store manager)
way overboard
we have gone ~ (incarceration)

behavior / restraint & lack of restraint: boat

overdose (noun)

overdose of history
as a child I was poisoned by an ~ (Israeli Amos Oz)
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: addiction / health & medicine

overdrive (in / into overdrive)

into overdrive
it sent the village rumour mill ~
went into overdrive
my imagination ~

activity: engine / mechanism

overflowing (adjective)

overflowing inbox
problems with an ~
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: water

overheated (adjective)

become overheated
she advises him not to get so ~ (an advocate)

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature

overinflated (adjective)

overinflated reputations
a critic should prick ~ (poetry)

Increase & decrease: air / atmosphere
flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere

overlord (person)

conglomerate’s IT overlords
the ~ gathered in Maidenhead, England (NotPetya worm)

power: history / person / royalty

overnight

overnight success
she was an ~ (an artist)
the firm wasn’t an ~
collapsed overnight
apple sales ~
come about overnight
the recession didn’t ~
solved overnight
the problem will not be ~

speed: day

overplay (verb)

overplayed their hand
they ~ (Google versus EU)

failure, accident & impairment: cards / sports & games / verb

overreach (verb)

overreached
BP ~ (and caused an oil-drilling catastrophe)

behavior: arm / boundary / verb
restraint & lack of restraint: arm / boundary / verb
constraint & lack of constraint: arm / boundary / verb

overshadow (verb)

overshadowed the race
the tragedy ~ (fatality)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / shadow / verb
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: light & dark / shadow / verb
superiority & inferiority: light & dark / shadow / verb

overstep (verb)

overstepped his authority
a judge ruled the health commissioner ~
overstep his boundaries
a journalist should not ~
overstepped his bounds
he’s a creep who ~ (gossip)
overstepped a line
he felt she had ~
the covert operation probably ~
overstepped the line
most priests are not predators, but some have ~ (sex)
overstepped his (electoral) mandate
the governor has ~ (politics)

overstepped his office
the president has ~ (interfering in local issue)

overstepped its power
the government has ~

behavior: boundary / verb / walking, running & jumping
restraint & lack of restraint: boundary / verb / walking, running & jumping
constraint & lack of constraint: boundary / verb / walking, running & jumping

over-the-top (adjective)
over-the-top news stories
most ~ cite anonymous officials (South Korea)
restraint & lack of restraint: military

overthrow (verb)
overthrew his father
the emir, Sheik Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, ~
overthrew the government
he vowed to ~ (Joseph Kony / Uganda)
its goal is to ~ and install a theocracy (Algeria)
overthrew the government
the military ~ (Fiji / 2006)
vowed to overthrow
he ~ the government (Joseph Kony / Uganda)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb
overturn (verb)
overturn the ban
they will go to court to try and ~
he is working to ~ (nuclear power / California)
he led the charge to ~
overturn the (climbing) ban
the group wants to ~ (Twin Sisters / Idaho)
overturned the conviction
a French appeals court ~ of six accused of…
overturned (conventional) theories
he ~ about the origin of autism (Rimland)
overturn his (father's) will
Leon Hendrix was seeking to ~ and gain control
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb
disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb
reversal: direction / equilibrium & stability / verb
overturned
overturned convictions
unnecessary appeals and ~
faulty FBI lab work may result in ~s

dismissal, removal & resignation: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
reversal: direction / equilibrium & stability / verb
owe (verb)
owe people explanations
you don’t ~
owe my (windsurfing) career to him
I ~ (mentor)
owe a lot to my heritage
I ~ (Iowa)
owed it to myself
I ~ to consider the implications…
owe a lot to my parents
I ~
owe a debt (of gratitude) to my editor
I ~ (writer / acknowledgments)
owe its existence to fiber optics
the information superhighway ~
owes its origins to the Phoenicians
the name Spain (Hispania) ~
owes to Allah
Haj is a duty that mankind ~
owe you anything
the world does not ~
owe you nothing
your parents ~
obligation: money / verb
own (verb)
"own" Myanmar
people say China is the "big daddy" and will soon ~
owns the past
who really ~ (looted and smuggled antiquities)
owned the pool
the US has ~ (at British Olympics)
possession: money / verb
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: money / verb
own (make something one's own)
made it her own
she ~ (the song "Respect" sung by Aretha)
possession: money / verb
ownership (noun)
took no ownership
he took ~ of what he’s done (criminal case)
possession: money
oxygen (fuel)
oxygen
liberalism is the ~ that his conflagration required (Trump)
why is an outlier case getting so much ~ (hoax hate crime)
oxygen for the theory
 the ~ is that...
political oxygen
 underdog candidates gulped much-needed ~ (TV debate)
oxygen has been sucked up
 much of the political ~ by the presidential race (other races)
provide more oxygen
 if they did that, it would ~ for this controversy (sports)
give oxygen
 ignoring it will ~ to extremists (ethnic identity of criminals)
we don’t want to ~ to his ideology (media suppresses manifesto)

Initiation: air / atmosphere / chemistry / fire
Increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / chemistry / fire

pace (speed)
pace (of medical research) is glacial
 the ~
dictated the pace
 he has ~ (mixed-martial arts fight)
gathers pace
 as the emergency response ~

♦ “Every word has its own pace.” (Peter Sokolowski answering a question about how long it takes for a word to become recognized.)

speed: foot / walking, running & jumping

pace-setter
pace-setter
 the US has always wanted to be the ~ (in physics, etc.)

driving force: sports & games / walking, running & jumping
competition: sports & games / walking, running & jumping

pack (competition)
head of the pack
 the consensus is that she is at the ~ (a candidate)

competition: animal / dog / wolf

pack (group)
pack of riders
 on Sunday, he finished in the main ~ (Tour de France)
packs of youth
 ~s roamed the streets (Ottawa power outage)
lead pack
 as the ~ approached the third turn on lap 39 (NASCAR)
 he stayed in the ~ (Nascar racer)
main pack
 Armstrong finished with the ~ (Tour de France)
troop or pack
everyone involved in a ~ (Boy Scouts)
finished with the (main) pack
 Armstrong ~ (Tour de France)
break free from the pack
 ~ (ad for a contraceptive)

group, set & collection: animal

package (benefits, etc.)
incentive package
 creating ~s
benefit package
 the federal government offers a very generous ~ (jobs)
settlement package
 the company's ~ (for death of worker)
severance package
 the charge will fund ~s (a company)
he got a $5.5 million ~ (executive of failed company)
fiscal aid package
asking for a better ~ (colleges)
generous (benefit) package
the federal government offers a very ~ (jobs)

**configuration: container**

**package (commercial)**

package rate
30 percent off the ~ for a ski trip
hotel's ($899-a-couple) package
the ~
dive package
selling ~s

air and accommodation packages
the lodge offers ~ (Alaska)
most heavily promoted package
most choose the ~ (buying autos)

$899-a-couple package
the hotel's ~
offers (air and accommodation) packages
the lodge ~ (Alaska)

**configuration: container**

**pack rat (person)**

pack rat
he is a ~, and kept the original packaging (a CD)

**character & personality: animal**

**page (on the same page)**

on the same page
this year, everyone is ~ (successful team)

**unanimity & consensus: books & reading**

**page (development)**

start a new page
we will ~

turn the page
it's time to ~ and go to the next chapter of my life

turning over a new page
we are ~ in the history of Kyrgyzstan (elections)

turn a new page after two world wars
he went to Germany to ~ (Charles de Gaulle)

page has turned
it feels like a ~ regarding sex abuse (stronger sentences)

**development: books & reading**

**pain (noun)**

pain in the ass
it's a ~ (doing the job right)

pain in the butt
journalists are a ~ (asking questions, etc.)

pain in the neck
rebuilding it will be a ~ (damaged overpass)
what a ~

pain in my neck
she was often a ~

**economic pain**

many Americas are experiencing great ~ (recession)
there is only corruption, humiliation, and ~
tariffs will just cause us ~

**affliction: health & medicine**

**painful (adjective)**

painful chapter
it was a ~ in Indian history (white boarding schools)

painful truth
here's the ~

painful vigil
the ~ of a mother

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation**

**paint (characterize)**

paint the entire border patrol with this same brush
it is irresponsible and unfair (misdeeds of 3 agents)

painted her as an adulteress
the prosecution ~

painted the North as a promised land
he ~ (Robert Sengstacke Abbott of Chicago Defender)

paint democrats as extreme
replicants want to ~

paint alcoholics in harsher colors
we need to ~ (TV shows)

paint a (bleaker) picture
there are doctors who ~ than necessary

painted an (ugly) picture
she ~ of him as a drug user (trial)

paint the accuser as troubled
his lawyer continued to ~

**characterization: picture / verb**

**paint (resemblance)**

knead, wax, pluck, rub, and paint
estheticians ~ people

**resemblance: picture / verb**
palace (movie palace, etc.)

Palace of Weddings
the city's elegant ~ (Krasnoyarsk)

Beckingham Palace
their country mansion, known as ~ (English soccer star)

corn palace
the world's only ~ (Mitchell, South Dakota)

ice palace
in the late 1800s cities built ~s for winter carnivals

movie palace
the ~s of his youth

pet palace
Atwood's Pet Resort in SeaTac is a ~

air-conditioned palace
the Grand Ole Opry moved into its new ~

palatable (adjective)

palatable to the left
a way that is ~

consumption: food & drink / taste
flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink / taste

palatial (adjective)

palatial (Manhattan) loft
she designed the kitchen in his ~

run from basic to palatial
river shacks ~ (South Carolina)

pancake (verb)

pancaked during the earthquake
several buildings ~

configuration: food & drink / verb

pancake (pancake ice, etc.)

pancake ice
~ in the Weddell Sea

shape: food & drink

pancake
the collapse created a ~ on the floors below

configuration: food

pancaked

pancaked
the plane was ~, it's totally crushed and pulverized
about half of the parking garage was ~

pancaked floors
they could see bodies in the ~ (earthquake)

configuration: food & drink

pander (verb)

pandered to their political bases
the politicians ~

According to Homer, Pandarus led the Lycians in the Trojan War. Boccaccio, Chaucer and Shakespeare refer to him as instrumental in supplying the girl Cressida for the king of Troy. He helps the two lovers in Chaucer's Troilus and Criseyde.

wants, needs, hopes & goals: allusion / sex / verb
speech: allusion / sex / verb

Pandora's box (open a Pandora's box, etc.)

reopen the Pandora's box of (ethnic) conflict
failure to act will ~ (Balkans)

opened a Pandora's box of (menacing) possibilities
they have ~ (war)
opened up a Pandora’s box of (legal) troubles
his plea agreement may have ~ of legal trouble for Trump
opened a Pandora’s box
they have ~ of menacing possibilities (war)
♦ Nathaniel Hawthorne wonderfully tells the story of Pandora’s box in A Wonder Book for Girls and Boys. His emphasis is on the curiosity that all children have.

**initiation:** allusion / creature / religion / verb
**affliction:** allusion / creature / religion / verb

### Panglossian

**Panglossian viewpoint**
it’s easy to make fun of his ~
♦ Pangloss was a fictional character form *Candide* by Voltaire. Candide was famous for his optimism.

**character & personality:** allusion

### panhandle (area)

Florida panhandle
he drove through the ~
♦ Nine US states are considered to have panhandles, including Florida.

**shape:** cooking

### panopticon (noun)

medical panopticon
Thrun envisages a ~ that constantly scans us (AI diagnosing)
♦ This refers to Jeremy Bentham’s idea for a circular penitentiary open to hidden view from a central office. The idea was, inmates would control themselves if they knew they were being secretly watched at every moment.

**surveillance:** allusion / crime / history

### pan out (verb)

pan out
the deal didn’t ~
if the projects ~… (energy development)
she had a couple of relationships that didn’t ~
♦ One dictionary dates the origin of this word to 1868. Famous gold rushes include: California (1848), Australia (1851), South Africa (1886), and the Klondike (1898).

**success & failure:** mining / verb

**worth & lack of worth:** mining / verb

### pantheon (noun)

pantheon
other athletes deserve to be in that same ~ (winners)

pantheon of (past keynote) speakers
he joins a ~ (political conventions)

pantheon of great surfers
his long rides in the barrel place him in the ~ (Garrett McNamara)

Blues pantheon
the Chicago ~ (Howlin’ Wolf, Elmore James, Magic Sam, and Junior Wells)

♦ In ancient Greek times, a pantheon was a temple dedicated to all of the gods.

**superlative:** allusion / place / religion

**sanctioning, authority & non-conformity:** religion

### pants (caught with one’s pants down)

caught with our pants down
we were ~ (CDC official)

**readiness & preparedness:** clothing & accessories / verb

### pants (get in somebody’s pants)

get in my pants
they all wanted to ~ (pretty girl and high-school boys)

**sex:** clothing & accessories / verb

### pants (scare the pants off somebody)

scare the pants off people
it will ~ (lawlessness)

**courage & lack of courage:** clothing & accessories / verb

**hyperbole:** clothing & accessories

### paper tiger

paper tiger
Osama bin Laden believed America was a ~

**substance & lack of substance:** animal / tiger

**strength & weakness:** animal / tiger

**force:** animal / tiger

### parachuted (verb)

parachuted in
he was ~ last year to lead a turnaround of the business

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning:** plane / verb

### parachute (golden parachute)

golden parachute
CEOs got high salaries and generous ~s

**lucrative golden parachute**
they rewarded him with a ~ (Blatt)

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning:** plane

**achievement, recognition & praise:** plane

### parade (noun)

parade of suspects
the investigation has seen a ~ over the years (crime)

endless parade
the seemingly ~ of principals (troubled middle school)

never-ending parade
a ~ of visits

nonstop parade
a ~ of local heroes carrying the Olympic torch

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning:** movement / walking, running & jumping
group, set & collection: walking, running & jumping

paradise

hikers' paradise
Aspen is a ~

smuggler's paradise
the ~ of Tijuana (drugs)

surfer's paradise
this ~ (Kuta, Bali)

surfers' paradise
Jaws is a ~ (north shore of Maui, Hawaii)
the North Shore of Oahu has long been a ~

bird lover's paradise
Horicon Marsh is a ~

skateboarder's paradise
the park is a ~

train lover's paradise
China is a ~ (43,000 miles of operating tracks)

island paradise
the ~ turned into hell by terrorists (Bali)

windsurfing paradise
the Columbia River Gorge is a ~

natural paradise
they live in a ~ (langurs of Halong Bay)

socialist paradise
he promised Venezuelans a better life in a ~

tropical paradise
in theory this place should be a ~

♦ Truly, the Horicon Marsh in Wisconsin is a bird-lover’s paradise with its geese and great blue herons. The largest freshwater cattail marsh in the United States also has an amazing backstory that started with the last Ice Age and continues to the present.

environment / superlative: religion
flaws & lack of flaws: religion

Paradise Lost (allusion)

Paradise Lost
this ~ kind of family mythology (formerly rich family)

♦ Paradise Lost was the poem by John Milton.

division & connection: allusion / religion

paradisiacal (adjective)

paradisiacal sounds
fountains provide ~ (Hama, Syria)

♦ Pronounced para-duh-SEE-uh-kul.

feeling, emotion & effect: religion

paralyze (verb)

paralyzed Algiers
the heaviest snow in more than 50 years ~

paralyzed Yaoundé
antigovernment riots ~, Cameroon's capital (2008)

riots paralyzed Yaoundé
antigovernment ~, Cameroon's capital (2008)

snow (in more than 50 years) paralyzed Algiers
the heaviest ~

functioning: health & medicine / verb

paralyzed (feeling)

paralyzed with grief
when I got home I was ~ (Everest 96)

paralyzed by fear
we are absolutely ~ (stuck in a job you don't like)

feeling, emotion & effect: functioning / health & medicine

paralyzed (functioning)

paralyzed by hackers
Baltimore struggles to revive computer systems ~

left (most of) the capital paralyzed
the assault ~ (Baghdad terrorism)

functioning: health & medicine

paralysis (noun)

political paralysis
it was a result of the ~ in Washington
~ may push American off a fiscal cliff

functioning: health & medicine

paramount (adjective)

paramount importance
being ethical is of ~

importance & significance: height / mountains & hills

parasite (noun)

parasite
critics are ~s (literary critics)
tax evaders are ~s to society (Italy)
illegal immigrants are ~s and should be deported
she is a ~ who exploits her culture for money (a writer)

parasite on the economy
the government is not simply a ~

affliction: animal

parent (parent company, etc.)

parent company
a revenue-sharing arrangement with its ~
the Washington Post and its ~
taxation of ~s and their subsidiaries

division: family
parent (relationship)

parent company
- a revenue-sharing arrangement with its ~
  the Washington Post and its ~
  taxation of ~s and their subsidiaries

parent star
- the brown dwarf orbits around its ~ (astronomy)

relationship: family
division & connection: family

pariah (person)

pariah state
- Israel is an apartheid ~

pariah status
- Zimbabwe seeks to jettison its ~

made himself a pariah
- he ~ at his old studio (an actor)
  ♦ This word refers to a caste in India.

society: person
acceptance & rejection: person
person: society

Paris (epithet)
"Paris of the South"
- attempts to promote Asheville as the ~

Paris of the Middle East
- before 1975, Beirut was known as the ~

superlative: epithet / place
epithet: place

park (walk in the park)

walk in the park
- people who said it would be a ~ were wrong (Brexit)
  I knew it wasn’t going to be a ~ (transgender hormones)
  it should be a ~ (US women should win World Cup)

difficulty, easiness & effort: walking, running & jumping

park (hit something out of the park)

hit it out of the park
- she ~ (a great debate performance)

success & failure: baseball / sports & games

parrot (verb)

parroted the (official) line
- he ~ about enemy losses

parrot the Pledge of Allegiance
- kids who ~ often say, "I led the pigeons to the flag"

repetition: bird / verb

parse (verb)

parse each of his sentences

a lot of moving parts
there are ~ to this story
so many moving parts
there are ~ in terms of the legal issues

complexity: mechanism

party (late to the party)

late to the party
- aren’t you rather ~ (entering new market)

timeliness & lack of timeliness: party

pass (free pass)

free pass
- many thought the press gave him a ~ (politician)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ticket

pass away (verb)

passed away last week
- he ~
  ♦ A "deceased person" who has "passed away" is a dead person who has died.
  ♦ "Fire Department medic unit Number 4 responded and transported the victim to Temple Hospital, where she was subsequently pronounced at 5:33 a.m." (A police spokesperson about a murder.)

euphemism: death & life

pass (end)

pass
- your problems will soon ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping

pass (progress)

passed the US
- many countries have ~ in healthcare and quality of life

progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement
competition: journeys & trips / verb

pass by (progress)

pass us by
- we don’t want to let this ~ (chance to adopt new technology)

progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips / movement

passing (death)

passing of our friend and brother
- it is with the heaviest of hearts that I tell you of the ~

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 447 of 982
euphemism: death & life
death & life: movement
passion (enthusiasm)

passion
my ~ is skiing

passion in life
his biggest ~ was climbing (killed by lightning)

passion for chemistry
his ~ (Richard Smalley)

passion for graffiti
his ~ was extinguished when... (tagging accident)

passion for (water) sports
a ~ (kitesurfing, etc.)

passion for trains
his life-long ~ (model trains, train spotting, etc.)

passion for vengeance
the understandable ~ (against terrorists)

passion for water sports
a young man with a ~ (kitesurfing, etc.)

passion for acting
he quit his job to pursue a lifelong ~ (TV, movies)

passion for boating
he has a love and ~ (a kayaker)

passion for caving
his ~ and cave diving has taken him around the world

passion for dancing
an active teen with a ~

passion for gambling
his ~

passion for sky diving
he had a ~

passion for caving and cave diving
his ~ has taken him around the world

passion and devotion
ramen inspires ~ among Japanese and foreigners

lifelong passion
he quit his job to pursue a ~ for acting (TV, movies)

interest / passions / hobbies
the return of ~ (after trauma, crisis abroad)

love and passion
he has a ~ for boating (a kayaker)

secret or (a) passion or (an) issue or (a) decision
when race is a ~ (people)

followed his passion
he ~ (a windsurfer)

follow your passion
that's part of the spirit of mountaineering, to ~

inspires passion
ramen ~ and devotion among Japanese and foreigners

turn your passion into a profession
how do you ~ (ad on TV or arts school)

♦ According to Wilfred Funk, Litt. D., passion originally meant suffering. Then it morphed in the late 14th century (the time of Chaucer) to mean powerful emotions like hatred and rage, including the tender passion of love. In Funk's day, it came to relate to the powerful emotion of sex. Today it commonly means enthusiasm. Compassion comes from the same root and literally means, "with suffering,” or "I feel your suffering."

♦ "Some people may say that passion is folly. I think if you haven't followed your passions, you haven't lived. If you haven't lived, you haven't evolved.” (John Chao, photographer and founder, publisher and editor in 1993 of the magazine American Windsurfer. In December 2016 he drove a panel truck full of firewood and propane from The Dalles, Oregon, to North Dakota to support the Standing Rock Dakota Access Pipeline activists in their winter camps.)

enthusiasm: sex
control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: sex

passionate

passionate about this case
I was ~ (Johnnie Cochran)

passionate about the (local) people
he was so ~ (a scientist in the field)

passionate defender
President Jacob Zuma is a ~ of Zulu traditions (S. Africa)

passionate response
she delivered a ~

young, passionate and pissed
I was ~ (climber who lost best friend)

enthusiasm: sex
control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: sex

passionately

feel passionately
but for those of us who ~ about the oceans (preservation)

enthusiasm: sex
control & lack of control / feeling, emotion & effect: sex

passage

passage into womanhood
her quinceañera, the celebration of a Hispanic girl's ~
girl's passage
her quinceañera, the celebration of a Hispanic ~ into womanhood

growth & development: journeys & trips
course: journeys & trips

passport (noun)

passport to freedom
education is our ~ (young European Muslim women)
passport out of death row
   a low IQ can be a ~

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: document / government
past (in the past)
in the past
   this all happened ~

† Scott Simon: When is the past past? Ever? / Chanelle Benz: Well, I think we can lay the past to rest once we’ve had some kind of reckoning with it.” (“Chanelle Benz On ‘The Gone Dead,’” NPR, Weekend Edition, June 22, 2019.)
past & present: container
time: container
pasture (put out to pasture)
put out to pasture
   some think the musical should be ~ (The King and I)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal / horse / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / horse / verb
patch (amelioration)
patched up the (contentious) issue with a compromise
   they ~ (world leaders)
patched things up
   the two eventually ~ (a relationship)
   the company has ~ (problems)
patched up their differences
   they have ~ (a couple)
patched the (security) flaw
   Microsoft has ~
patched his relationship
   he has ~ with them
patch the rift
   he is trying to ~ (disagreement)
amelioration & renewal: cloth / verb
patch (patch together)
patched together an agreement
   leaders finally ~ (diplomacy)
patched together a (workable group)
   he has ~
creation & transformation: cloth / verb
patched
patched
   Windows is full of security holes that can never be ~
patched up
   the problems have been ~
amelioration & renewal: cloth

patchwork (noun)
patchwork
   the system, however ~, works well

amelioration & renewal: cloth
path (on the path)
on the path to sainthood
   the Pontiff put him ~
on the path to democracy and freedom
   they are ~ (Iraq)
on the right path
   I have put Qatar ~ (Sheikh Hamad)
   so the economy’s ~
continue on the path
   we’re going to ~ that we started on last year
continue on the (same) path
   we will ~ that was laid out by Osama...
got on the (right) path
   he straightened his life out and ~ (former criminal)
set out on this path
   he ~ in 1997 by writing... (rehabilitated his career)
put Qatar on the right path
   I have ~ (Sheikh Hamad)
put him on the path
   the Pontiff ~ to sainthood
continue on this path
   we should let the economy ~
course: journeys & trips
path (on a path)
on a (sustained) expansion path
   the economy now appears to be ~
on a (good expansionary) growth path
   the economy seems to be on a good expansionary ~
on a downward path
   the debt to GDP ratio is ~ (economy)
on a troubled path
   when someone you love is ~

† “In Japan there has been only one path, and today an increasing number of people are not on it. It’s easy to say that academic background is not everything. But the parents cannot suggest another path because they don’t know one.” (A Japanese psychologist talking about Hickikomori, the withdrawal from society by young people.)
course: journeys & trips
path (in the path)
obstacles in the path
   the FAA threw ~ of the Peotone proposal (airport)
throw obstacles in the path
   the FAA ~ of the Peoton proposal (airport)
obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips

path (down a path)
down a path (that)
don’t force your child ~ you wanted to follow
down a dangerous path
his unswerving belief in himself led him ~
down the wrong path
it has taken us ~ (antiterrorism)
down a moderate and secular path
lead Pakistan ~
go down paths
they can ~ that relate to... (investigation)
led him down a dangerous path
his unswerving belief in himself ~
taken us down the wrong path
it has ~ (antiterrorism)
continue down that path
it’s important that we ~ (environmental cleanup)

force your child down a path
don’t ~ you wanted to follow (but didn't)

course: journeys & trips

path (cross paths)
cross paths
when competitors ~, violence usually follows (prison)
cross his path
he is a danger to all who ~
crossed paths
late Monday night, the two men ~ again (cop / felon)
crossed her path
she left a mark on all of us who ~ (an actor)
cross paths with a stripper
an accountant might ~ (at an airport)

fate, fortune & chance: journeys & trips / verb

path (beat a path)
beating a path to China’s door
the world is ~

eagerness & reluctance: journeys & trips / verb

path (off the beaten path)
off the beaten path
even tours of federal buildings ~ are possible
far off the beaten path
she lives in a place ~

Isolation & remoteness: journeys & trips

path (path of peace, etc.)
path
the ~ they follow may not be simple (investigation)
figure out what ~ will work best for you (education)
jihad is its ~ (Hamas motto)
path of Allah
the ~
path of peace
the ~ is still the right path
path of prosperity
we need to get back on the ~ (politics)
path of (ecological) sustainability
they follow a ~ (reindeer peoples)
path of reason, justice and dialogue
adopt the ~ to resolve... (Kashmir)

course: journeys & trips

path (path to / toward legalization, etc.)
path to citizenship
we offer a ~ for 1.8 million illegal immigrants
path to jihad
hundreds of Americans have followed the ~
path to legalization
immigrants need a ~ (US)
path to pride
his job to help the school find a ~ (troubled high school)
path to riches
a marketing wizard who hopes he had found the ~
path to success
negotiations with no clear ~ (Middle East)
paths to success
there are many ~
path to discipline, tenacity, courage
hardship is the surer ~
path to inner peace
the Buddhist ~
path toward a market economy
the difficult, unguided ~ (Russia)
path toward peace and prosperity
putting the continent on a ~ (Africa)

course: journeys & trips

path (alternatives and choices)
path of least resistance
he’s lazy, he’ll take the ~
path of the lesser evil
we took the ~ (US support of Saddam)
two paths
two paths there are ~ now for supercomputing
you can cake one of ~ in high school (boy-crazy or study)
another path
parents can't suggest ~ (Japan)
different path
persuade young delinquents to take a ~
many paths
there are ~ to success
one path
in Japan there is only one ~
quickest path
the ~ is not always obvious
the ~ to raise school's profile is to buy a football team
two paths
there are ~ now for supercomputing
you can take one of ~ in high school (boys or academics)
alternatives & choices: journeys & trips
path (a path can turn)
path took an (unexpected) turn
her life's ~ (serious injury)
development: journeys & trips
path (somebody's path)
brother's path
he assured his father he wouldn't follow his ~
father's path
he eventually followed his ~ (seminarian)
life's path
her ~ took an unexpected turn (serious injury)
Saudi Arabia's path
but Qatar does not stray too far from ~
course: journeys & trips
path (tough / easy path, etc.)
clear-cut (career) paths
not all fields at universities have ~
clear path
negotiations with no ~ to success (Middle East)
difficult path
military families walk a ~ in wartime (dissent, etc.)
smooth path
no candidate will have a ~ to the Democratic nomination
straight path
we ask Allah to lead the Muslims to follow the ~
surer path
hardship is the ~ to discipline, tenacity, courage
difficult, unguided path
the ~ toward a market economy (Russia)
long, tortured path
it's been a ~ for the international space station
walk a difficult path
military families ~ in wartime (dissent, anxiety, etc.)
difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips
flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips
path (other)
career path
clear-cut ~s
a ~ shaped by combat experience (the military)
converging paths
he concluded that species had evolved along ~ (Darwin)
academic path
decide what the best ~ for you may be
Buddhist path
the ~ to inner peace
spiritual path
turning to a ~ in their search for answers
step along the path
a final preliminary trial is a ~ to a criminal trial (Colorado)
adopt the path
~ of reason, justice and dialogue to resolve… (Kashmir)
chose the path
another bored child of privilege who ~ of revolution
find a path
his job to help the school ~ to pride high school)
follow a path
they ~ of ecological sustainability
followed his (father's) path
he eventually ~ (seminarian)
follow their (mothers') paths
often, young prostitutes ~ into the sex trade
follow in Qeis's path
he vowed he will ~ (suicide bomber)
take its path
justice has to ~ (investigation)
got on the right path
he straightened his life out and got on the ~ (criminal)
started down a path
we have ~ that we won't turn back from (legal action)
set me along this path
my mother helped me to ~ (of being a writer)
stray from the path
a good Muslim must not ~
stray (too far) from (Saudi Arabia’s) path but Qatar does not ~
get back on the path we must ~ of prosperity (politics)
course: journeys & trips
pathbreaking
pathbreaking article
he wrote a ~ on this subject
pathbreaking filmmaker
he was a ~ who… (obituary)
pathbreaking ideas
he garnered admiration for some ~ but also enmity
path-breaking research
he brought ~ to economics
pathbreaking role
the museum played a ~ in fostering education
path-breaking study
he was the primary author of a ~ that found…
pathbreaking work
his ~ opened a new era in cancer research
importance & significance: journeys & trips
pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.)
HMS Pathfinder
the ~ was sunk by a German U-boat in 1914
Lisa Pathfinder
the European Space Agency’s ~
Nissan Pathfinder
he was struck by a ~
proper name: journeys & trips
pathology (noun)
pathology
Nazism emerged as a ~ of an inflation-wracked…
symptom of a (much wider) pathology
he is a ~ infecting the entire system (Chinese politics)
affliction: health & medicine
pathway (route)
pathway to citizenship
illegal immigrants need a ~
the Dreamers need a ~
pathway from complaint to trial
the ~ is too long (sex abuse cases)
route: journeys & trips
patient zero
patient zero in the NotPetya plague

pay (benefit)
pays to go back
sometimes it ~ and start over (detective / cold cases)
pays to be nice
it ~ to strangers (got free tickets)
cost & benefit: money / verb
pay (pay a price)
pay the price
when it comes to high heels, the feet ~
pay a price
you want the fame but, baby, you ~ (Frank Sinatra)
pay the price of the war
they ~ with their arms and legs (injured civilians)
pay the price (of the war) with their arms and legs they ~ (injured civilians)
pays the price in fear, suffering and death society ~ (anti-vaccination fears and causes)
paid a price for his beliefs
Yusuf Islam has ~… (controversy, etc.)
pays a price for her (burning) righteousness
   she ~ (a play)
paid a very high price
   we ~ (military commander, about casualties)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

**pay (obligation)**
paid me a complement
   he ~
paying tribute to our (nursing) colleagues
   ~—past, present and future
paid little mind to the outside world
   they ~ (rural isolation)
paid with his life
   he ~ for the people's freedom (terrorist)
pay for their actions
   they must ~ (teen killers)
paid his debt
   he has ~ many times over (44 years in prison)
pays (little) heed
   the program ~ to issues of gender and sexuality
paid (close) notice
   France's minority communities ~ when…
pay the (ultimate) penalty
   they want those guilty to ~ (death)
pay my respects
   I was determined to ~ to Ronald Reagan (on his death)
paid his respects
   the president personally ~ to Sheehan
pay his respects
   he went to the cemetery to ~ (to a victim of terrorism)
pay its respects
   the base was opened for the public to ~ (military deaths)
paid their respects
   people ~ to the 12 men who died (coal miners)
paid tribute
   he ~ to the men and women in the armed services
paid a (surprise) visit
   he ~ and was shocked by what he saw (illegal logging)
paid an (unannounced) visit
   Rumsfeld ~ to Iraq (government official)

**obligation: money / verb**

**pay (revenge)**
pay
   I'm going to make you ~ (a threat)
you will ~ for what you did

**revenge: money / verb**

**payback**
payback for his reporting
   was his murder a crime or a political ~ (journalist)
payback time
   it's ~

**revenge: money**

**pay dirt**
pay dirt
   he finally hit ~ (in the 1930 census) (genealogy)
movie pay dirt
   the company turns graphic novels into ~
hit pay dirt
   he finally ~ (a researcher)
on the fourth day, he seemed to ~ (experiment)

**success & failure: ground, terrain & land / mining**

**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining**

**worth & lack of worth: ground, terrain & land / mining**

**pay off (verb)**
pay off
   what you are doing will ~ (studying / school)
paying off
   the training is ~ (military / counter-IED measures)
China's strategy is ~ (G-20 negotiations)
gamble paid off
   the ~
lessons paid off
   the piano ~ (plays well)
work had paid off
   all our hard ~ (a scientist)

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

**worth & lack of worth: money / verb**

**payoff**
payoff for a job well done
   it was an incredible ~ (successful medevac)

**cost & benefit: money**

**worth & lack of worth: money**

**peak (at the peak)**
at the peak of his career
   he disappeared seemingly ~ (an artist)
at the peak of his popularity
   he was ~ (a leader)
at the peak of his powers
   he is ~ (a rugby player)

**achievement, recognition & praise: mountains & hills**

**growth & development: mountains & hills**
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: mountains & hills
increase & decrease: mountains & hills
peak (other)
peaks and troughs
the regional patterns of ~ could change (rising sea levels)
peaks and valleys
it's a long season, you're going to have ~
there are more emotional ~ in the film (than in the book)
progress & lack of progress: mountains & hills
shape: mountains & hills
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: mountains & hills
increase & decrease: mountains & hills
pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.)
Pearl of Africa
Mogadishu, the ~, is in ruins (Somalia)
Pearl of Asia
when Phnom Penh was known as the ~
Pearl of the Orient
Manila, the ~ (Philippines);
the city that came to be known as the ~ (Saigon)
"Pearl of the Adriatic"
the ~, on the Dalmatian Coast (Dubrovnik)
“Pearl of the Antilles”
the city was considered the ~ (Havana, Cuba)
superlative: epithet / sea
epithet: mining / sea
pearl (string of pearls)
string of pearls (m)
when the 21 pieces of the “~” comet hit Jupiter
configuration: sea
Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.)
Australia’s Pearl Harbor
the Japanese attack on Darwin is known as ~ (1942)
subterfuge: allusion / epithet / history
epithet: history / military
pecking order
corporate pecking order
we still have ~s and rigid job categories (lack of change)
at the bottom of the pecking order
we were ~ (biker club)
hierarchy: animal / bird
pedestal (on a pedestal)
put him on a pedestal
they ~ (George Washington)
people who ~ since he took charge
put on a high pedestal
they are ~ (priests in immigrant community)
admiration & contempt: height
pedestaled
pedestaled notions
the pressure to conform to ~ of female beauty
admiration & contempt: height
peek (verb)
peeked through the clouds
the sun ~
appearance & disappearance: eye
resemblance: eye
peel (peel back the layers, etc.)
peeled back the layers
as investigators ~, they found more
peel back the world
he writes with eager curiosity to ~ the world of...
analysis, interpretation & explanation: fruits & vegetables / verb
Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.)
Pele of Saudi Arabia
Majid Abdullah, the ~
Pele of Brazilian literature
he is the ~ (Paulo Coelho, according to Arnaldo Niskier)
Russian Pele
he earned the nickname, "the ~" (Streltsov)
superlative: sports & games
ability & lack of ability: epithet / sports & games
epithet: sports & games
pendulum (reversal)
pendulum is swinging back
now the ~ (from spending to austerity)
pendulum has swung too far
some think the ~ and they want to push it back
pendulum will swing back
the ~ (politics)
development / reversal: pendulum
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: pendulum
pent-up (constrained)
pent-up anger
there’s a lot of ~
pent-up (civic) forces
the dictator's ouster unleashed a whirlwind of ~
pent-up frustration
~s have flared into violence (Nigeria)

left it all pent up
it’s as though the stuttering ~ (talkative person)

feeling, emotion & effect: container
constraint & lack of constraint: container

pepper (verb)
peppered him with questions
she ~
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink / verb
throwing, putting & planting: food & drink / verb

peppered

getting peppered
he is ~ (boxing match)

giving, receiving, bringing & returning: food & drink
throwing, putting & planting: food & drink / verb

percent (one hundred and ten percent)
gave it one hundred and ten percent
I ~ (investigation of child abduction)

commitment & determination: number

perch (verb)
perched in the rugged hills
their house is ~

configuration: bird / verb

perch (knock something off its perch)
knock Facebook off its perch
only the government can ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: animal / bird

percolate (verb)
percolating
the debate is ~ in various forms (controversy)
percolating (for years) around the blogosphere
the argument has been ~
percolated throughout the U.S. Army
the idea of permanent divisions ~ for at least 20 years prior to 1917

activity: heating water / temperature / verb / water
initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water

perspective (from a perspective)
from the perspective of students
but ~ and many staff members, nothing changed

from the perspective of African people
history ~ as subjects, not objects...

from a black man’s perspective
~, I expect to be able to... (soccer racism)
from the customer’s perspective
we’re trying to look at it ~

from the employer’s perspective
help them see the barrier ~

from the government’s perspective
~, he should have been deported years ago

from the passengers’ perspective
~, it was a normal day... (D.C. Metro)

from a pilot’s perspective
a look at the flight data from a ~ (crash of...)

from the victim’s perspective
murder ~

from a native perspective
if you look at history ~ (Cherokee)

from a classroom perspective
it’s important to remember ~ that...

from a cost or time perspective
when it’s infeasible or impractical ~

from a law-enforcement perspective
things get a little easier ~

from a collecting perspective
~, there is a huge interest in these dolls

from a marketing perspective
~, bankers just don’t see the possibilities

from the African perspective
studying from the ~ (African-American studies)

from a federal perspective
that is possible from a ~ in this matter

from their perspective
~, the future of arctic wildlands... (Greenpeace, etc.)

from your perspective
and so ~, how do you think about that and...

from an economic perspective
~, the Strait of Malacca is... (importance)

from a historical perspective
people teaching ~

from a psychological perspective
people teaching ~

from a sociological perspective
people teaching ~
from a strategic perspective
~, the Strait of Malacca is… (importance)

consider it from a (larger) perspective
~ that includes… (the town, history, etc.)

look at history from a native perspective
if you ~ (Cherokee)

look at it from their perspective
made it from the Japanese perspective
he ~ (Clint Eastwood / a film)

see the world from a different perspective
people who ~ (autism)

looked at from a long term perspective
however if ~… (exploiting ANWR)

♦ Heard on NPR: “Carrie, let me get your 3,000-foot perspective on something. Do you think that…”
♦ Heard on NPR: “Let me ask you to pull back 3,000 feet…” (To put a matter into context and perspective.)
♦ “We are looking at it from the 30,000 foot level.” (California Democrat Congressman Adam Schiff on NPR.)

perception, perspective & point of view: position

perception, perspective & point of view: position

perspective (in perspective)
difference in perspective
the ~ between Western and Arab views of Hezbollah

kept things in perspective
most importantly, they have ~

keep things in perspective
to ~, these are scary cases but… (stranger abductions)

put the figures in perspective
to ~, each… (water scarcity / Middle East)

put the interview in perspective
~ (jobs)

put it (all) in perspective
what ~ was a woman who came up and said...

put things in (a different) perspective
you sure ~ when you tell us about...

put things in (their proper) perspective

put things in perspective
when we finish grieving and we can ~

put the whole thing in perspective
old people can better able ~ (memories)

kept in perspective
the threat needs to be ~ (Al-Shabab in Somalia)

perception, perspective & point of view: position

perception, perspective & point of view: position

perspective (into perspective)
puts everything else into perspective
a child’s death ~ (on Tour de France)

put it into perspective
I think you have to ~ (string of skydiving fatalities)

put this into perspective
to ~, this is… (comparison of pay-per-view fights)

perspective on (AIDS) issues
articulate the public health ~

perspective on life
articulating the Saudi ~, religion and Sept. 11

different perspective

they don't have enough ~ they're being formed (teens)

Parent’s Perspective
a ~ (depression in children)

public health perspective
articulate the ~ on (AIDS) issues

marketing perspective
I think in terms of the larger picture, which is a ~

balanced perspective
it is important to have a ~ (safety and study abroad)

limited perspective
I had a ~ (status of windsurfing of US vs. rest of world)

Saudi perspective
articulating the ~ on life, religion and Sept. 11

another perspective
~ came from prostitutes… ("John" School)

cultural perspective
a distinctive ~ that we simply don't have

different perspective
different groups have ~s
they can't see that their partner simply has a ~
~s can produce different outlooks on the war (pilots)

enough perspective
they don't have ~ on how they're being formed (teens)

historical perspective
Biological warfare: A ~ (JAMA article)

invaluable perspective
Glen Mills provided him with ~ (a good school)
new perspective
  it must revitalize itself with new ideas and ~s (college)
sense of perspective
  he has a thick skin and a ~ (homicide detective)
shortcomings of the perspective
  they try to redress the ~ (African-American studies)
objectivity or perspective
  ~ are not easy to come by in books generated by the war
reflection or perspective
  calm ~ are not easy to come by (war books)
sympathy and perspective
  ~ are not easy to come by in wartime
time, distance, and perspective
  I am able to write about it now because of ~
perspectives differ
  why their ~ (Boomers vs. Gen Xers)
my perspective might have been skewed
  ~ (US vs. European attitudes to...)
perspective lends understanding
  ~ (history of Dubai)
perspective was shared
  Cohan's ~ by a number of Asian-Americans
adds a (fresh) perspective
  the parent's view ~ to their fight (intersexed)
add my perspective
  I'd like to ~ to the discussion
consider (Native American) perspectives
  federal officials need to ~ when...
gained some perspective
  he professed to have ~ in the ruins of his career
promote (the proper ethical) perspectives
  commanders ~ (military)
supplied perspective
  David Morrison of NASA ~ (asteroid danger to earth)
take a (global or an American) perspective
  should it ~ (black studies)
keep some perspective about it
  try to ~ (toddlers who throw food)
introduce (new) perspectives into curriculums
  trying to ~ (schools)
agreed with my perspective
  not everyone ~
depends on your perspective
  so it probably ~ as to where you are (education reform)
provided him with (invaluable) perspective
  Glen Mills ~ (a good school in a bad neighborhood)
gives you (a little) perspective
  it ~ (reading about industry trends)
gives you a perspective
  it ~ that everyone is not the same (International camp)
gives you perspective
  the institute ~, you see that other people feel…
perception, perspective & point of view: position
pet (vocative)
  my pet
    don’t worry, ~
vocative: animal
pet (pet cause, etc.)
  pet cause
    seeking attention for a ~
  pet name
    my girlfriend's ~ for it is…
  pet phrase
    "We shall see" is one of his ~s
pet project
  a ~ of Navy Secretary Danzig
    earmarks are ~s that lawmakers insert into giant bills
  teacher's pet
    I was the ~ (school)
enthusiasm / relationship: animal
petri dish
  petri dishes of cafes and storefronts
    a new theatrical culture grew in the ~ (NYC)
  ♦ The petri dish was named after the German bacteriologist Julius Richard Petri.
growth & development: biology
phantom
  phantom classes
    an academic scandal involving ~ (athletes)
appearance & disappearance: creature
pharaoh (power)
  military pharaoh
    power has transferred from a ~ to an Islamic one (Egypt)
  power: history
Pharaonic (adjective)
  the scale and ambition of the project are ~ (a book)
size: allusion / history
Phoenix (myth)

Phoenix
we will rise from the ashes like the ~ (town burned by wildfire)

♦ In Greek mythology, the Phoenix was a bird that periodically was consumed by fire and then regenerated from the ashes. A bronze monument featuring a phoenix saving a woman from a fire commemorates Atlanta, Georgia’s rise from the ashes of the Civil War.

creation & transformation: allusion / fire
survival, persistence & endurance: allusion / fire
destruction / origin: fire

photobomb (verb)

photobomb the images
Ms Steinbach denied she had been asked to ~

♦ Kelly Steinbeich (AKA Kelleth Cuthbert) became known as the Fiji Water Girl after she upstaged celebrities on the Golden Globe red carpet while providing that brand of water to them.

attention, scrutiny & promotion: picture / theater / verb

pick (pick oneself up)
pick themselves up
they’ve got to ~ (a losing team)

resiliency: direction / hand / verb

pick apart (analyze)
picking apart the language
opposition leaders have been ~ (Brexit deal)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb

picnic (noun)
picnic
in comparison with Nanda Devi East, Everest is a ~

difficulty, easiness & effort: food & drink

picture (out of the picture)
out of the picture
he is ~ (husband who abandoned family)
take you out of the picture
a mistake will ~ (competition)
wanted him out of the picture
she ~ (murder)

involvement: picture
presence & absence: picture

picture (in the picture)
put you in the picture
this will ~

involvement: picture

picture (in the big picture)
in the big picture
it’s not important ~
ugly picture
  she painted an ~ of him as a drug user (trial)

whole picture
  you have to look at the ~
  you might not be seeing the ~ (health ad)

quite a (gloomy) picture
  he presented ~ of the region

one-sided picture
  the ~ purveyed by the media

transparent picture
  the ~ of vaccines (politics)

favorable picture
  suspects want to paint the most ~ possible

taken picture
  as the cases accumulated, a common clinical ~ (epidemic)
described a different picture
  but he ~… (of a crisis)

get a better picture
  we need to ~ of what's going on (diplomacy)
painted an (ugly) picture
  she ~ of him as a drug user (trial)
paint a (bleaker) picture
  there are doctors who ~ than necessary

correction: picture
  analysis, interpretation & explanation: picture

pie (apple pie)
  apple pie
  nativism is as old as ~

characterization: pie
  analysis, interpretation & explanation: pie

piece (missing pieces)
  missing pieces
    the ~ now are falling into place (police investigation)

piece (pick up the pieces)
  pick up the pieces
    hopefully, negotiators can ~ and find a way forward

amelioration & renewal: destruction / verb
  resiliency: destruction / verb

piece together (verb)
  piecing together (historic) clues
    he began ~

piece together what
  police are trying to ~ led to the shooting

piece together where
  investigators have still not ~ the money came from

analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle / verb

pied piper
  “pied piper of R&B”
    he adopted the nickname, ~ (R. Kelly)

attraction & repulsion: allusion / epithet / magic

piety (noun)
  pieties of the (early) 1990s
    liberals have reverted to the ~ (alleged sex harassment)

lazy pieties
  she avoids ~ and reactionary forecasts (a writer)
takes aim at the pieties
  she is a heretic who ~ of diet culture

idea: religion
  sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion

pig (insult)
  he's a ~
    no matter how much lipstick you put on a ~, it's still a pig

♦ What do you expect from a pig but a grunt!

Insult: animal

pile (pile of money, etc.)
  pile of money
    they hoped to make a ~

amount: pile

pile-on (noun)
  joined the pile-on
    soon big-named comedians ~ (Instagram problem)
callouts, draggings, and pile-ons
  some Y.A. books are targeted in intense social-media ~

unanimity & consensus: pile / sports & games
  accusation & criticism: pile / sports & games

pile on (consensus)
  pile on
    some urged Democrats not to ~ (attacks on Joe Biden)
piled on
    national Democrats ~ (calls for resignation)
fans ~ (to criticize Bill Buckner after his 1986 error)
  the media ~ (criticism of Bill Buckner after 1986 error)

unanimity & consensus: pile / sports & games / verb

pile on (increase)
  piling on the pressure
    he’s ~ (politics)

Increase & decrease: pile / verb

pile up (verb)
  pile up
disturbing details began to ~ (missing child)
distractions can pile up
  ~ (while driving a car: kids, music, cellphone, etc.)
evidence was piling up
  the ~ (investigation of missing woman)

increase & decrease: pile / verb

pilgrimage (trip)
pilgrimage site
  his restaurant is a ~ for foodies
annual pilgrimage
  they've made the ~ for 12 years (Daytona 500)
make the pilgrimage
  Scandinavians ~ here each year (northern Jutland)
makes a pilgrimage
  nearly every day, somebody ~ here (Lake Lure)

♦ The “devotional crawl” around Kang Rinpoche (Mount Kailas) in western Tibet takes about two weeks. The path starts at an altitude of 15,000 feet, attains an altitude of 18,600 feet at the Drolma La Pass, is 33 miles long, and crosses streams. Most pilgrims walk or crawl in a clockwise direction, but the Bonpos go counterclockwise. Pilgrims spend years and even decades simply getting to the mountain.

enthusiasm: religion
attraction & repulsion: religion / place

pill (poison pill)
poison pill
  they included a ~ in the spending bill (to kill it)
destruction / subterfuge: health & medicine

pill (bitter pill)
bitter pill
  the long term solution may be a ~
bitter pill to swallow
  getting advice can be a ~

feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine

pill (miracle pill)
miracle pill
  it is not a ~ (a drug)

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine

pillar (basis)
pillars of Islam
  pilgrimage is one of the five ~
pillar of the (US) approach
  another ~ is to minimize civilian casualties
pillar of the (Iraq) coalition
  a ~ has collapsed (Spain)
pillar of the community
  the family was a ~
    he has always been a ~ (slain businessman)
pillars of excellence
  black schools that were once ~ fell into decline
pillar of their faith
  a pilgrimage that is a ~ (Haj)
pillars of our plan
  here are the four ~ (State of the Union address)
pillar of (modern) science
  peer-reviewed journals are a ~
pillars of (Somali) society
  clan elders, the traditional ~ (Somaliland)

community pillar
  the ~ became an object of loathing (pedophile)

ideological pillar
  she assaulted the ~s of the system

traditional pillars
  clan elders, the ~ of Somali society (Somaliland)
four pillars
  the AAMDC executes the ~ of Missile Defense
five pillars
  pilgrimage is one of the ~ of Islam

first pillar
  the ~ of our framework offers a path to citizenship for...
second pillar
  salah, prayer, is the ~ (of Islam)
second (Israeli) pillar
  a ~ was the Israeli Air Force (1973 war)
fourth pillar
  fasting during Ramadan is the ~ of Islam
fifth pillar
  Haj is the ~ (Islam)

rested on the (three) pillars
  victory ~ of intelligence, the air force, and tanks

bases: infrastructure

pillar (Pillar Rock, etc.)
Pillar
  the ~ is a mountain in British Columbia
Pillars of Hercules
  the northern pillar of the ~ is the Rock of Gibraltar

Pillar Point
  we walked to ~ (Hong Kong)

proper name: infrastructure

pillar (resemblance)
pillars of smoke
  huge ~ rose above buildings (bombardment)

resemblance: infrastructure
pillory (verb)
pilloried the president over (federal) spending he has ~ (politics)

♦ In Krakatoa, the wonderful writer Simon Winchester reprints a German soldier’s list of punishments in Batavia (present-day Jakarta) in 1676. The soldier mentions beheadings, six unfortunate men who were broken on the wheel, a hanging, whippings, burnings (brandings), two soldiers forced to run the gauntlet, and “A Dutch Schoolmaster’s Wife,” caught cheating on her husband, who was “put in the Pillory.”

accusation & criticism: violence / verb
pillar(ed)
pilloried in the media he was ~
pilloried (by critics) for supporting he is sometimes ~ the revolutions (Arab Spring)

accusation & criticism: violence / verb
pilot (verb)
piloted the school to (considerable) success he ~ (a principal)
directing: boat / verb

pin (attach)
pinning its hopes on a new strategy the company is now ~ (oil leak)

pinning their hopes on the new treatment they are ~ (leukemia)
pinned their hopes on the report many Democrats ~ as a game changer (politics)

attachment: cloth / verb

pinch (noun)

pinch of hunger
to feel the ~ in April and May (Alaska)

economic pinch
what unites them is the ~ and anger at the president (protests)

feeling the pinch
the economy is bad, and shopkeepers are ~

♦ “Scrapping along / In a little shack, / With hardly a shirt / To cover his back, / And a prairie wind / To blow him down, / Or pinching times / If he went to town.” (“Nancy Hanks” by Rosemary Benet. The 1933 poem describes the poverty in which Abraham Lincoln grew up.)

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

affliction: sensation

ping-pong (verb)

ping-pongs along
as the dialogue ~, the audience… (a play)

ping-pong back and forth
versions ~ between the House and Senate (spending bill)

ping-ponged (around) from music to comics the conversation ~
ping-pong between institutions patients often ~ (nursing homes and hospitals)
ping-pong between the two (major) parties voters ~ (Mexico)
ping-ponged between Los Angeles and New York he ~
ping-ponged (numerous times) between Syria and Iraq her family ~
ping-pons between vulnerable and obnoxious she ~ (a child in a film)

movement: ball / verb

ping-pong (noun)
ping-pong editing what I call ~ (close-ups toggle between 2 talking people)
ping-pong exchange
the ~ of offer and counteroffer

ping-pong structure
the book’s ~ makes for a kinetic read

ping-pong with your emotions
this sport plays ~ (Costello & Bunce / boxing)

budget ping pong
it’s a game of ~ between the two parties (spending bill)

game of (legislative) Ping-Pong
it’s a ~ (budget dispute)

movement: ball

pinnacle (achievement)
pinnacle of her profession after reaching the ~ on her shuttle mission…
pinnacle of (Scottish) wooden shipbuilding she really was the ~ (the Terra Nova)
pinnacle of success Tyson reached the ~ at the age of just 20

reached a pinnacle
his popularity ~ when he won the lead in the school play

♦ A pinnacle is a long pointed “cap” on a tower or buttress. They are common on gothic cathedrals. The name comes from the Latin for “little feather.”

♦ Towers (the Trango Towers); cathedrals (the Baltoro Cathedrals); spires (the Lobsang Spires); spurs (the Abruzzi Spur), peaks (Broad Peak); horns (the Matterhorn), pyramids (Carstenz Pyramid / Puncak Jaya); pinnacles; pillars; crags; domes (Half Dome); knobs (Huckleberry Knob); balds (Hooper Bald)… (Climbing.)

achievement, recognition & praise: height / infrastructure

pinned

pinned in the (submerged) rock jumble I saw his boat, ~ (kayaking)
pinned to the ground
the squad was engaged by weapons fire and ~
pinned vertically
his boat was ~ (kayaking)

**attachment: cloth**

**pinned (pinned down)**
pinned down on a roof
the two marines were ~ (Falluja)

**attachment: cloth**

**pinpoint (locate)**
pinpoint with accuracy
engineers can ~ the areas... (oil)
pinpoint the (relic's) age
but metals experts could not ~ (a watch)

**pinpoint (with accuracy) the areas**
enengineers can ~... (oil)

pinpoint the location
acoustic sensors can ~ of snipers (combat)

**pinpoint locations**
G.P.S. can ~

pinpoint the (shooter's) position
police used computer software to ~

pinpoint the (tumor's) size and location
a CT scan can ~

difficult to pinpoint
it is ~ a spot in the desert

**location: map / verb**

**pinpoint (accuracy, etc.)**

pinpoint accuracy
direct his bombs with nearly ~

pinpoint precision
cops can track a person’s whereabouts with ~ (5G)

pinpoint timing
surfers must hit a wave with ~

**location: map**

**pioneer (person)**
pioneer of their sport
a fallen ~, Craig Kelly (avalanche / snowboarding)
pioneers of (wilderness) therapy
he is one of the ~
pioneer of tow-in surfing
Laird Hamilton, the ~
pioneer in his field
he is a ~ (psychology)
pioneers in their field
those who become ~s of endeavor

**pioneer species**
~ like brown sedge colonize disturbed sites

industry pioneer
the National Captioning Institute, the ~

big-wave pioneers
~ such as Greg Noll and Jeff Clark (surfing)

Internet pioneer
an ~

**hip-hop pioneers**
~ RUN-DMC

**skateboarding pioneer**
Andy Kessler, a ~ (1970s / NYC)

snowboarding pioneer
Craig Kelly, a ~ who died in an avalanche

♦ “The Explorer” (1898) by Rudyard Kipling is a stirring poem about an explorer and the pioneers who followed in his footsteps.

**importance & significance: history / person**
**driving force: journeys & trips / person**
**person: journeys & trips**

**pioneering**
pioneering contribution
their ~s to intelligence testing

**pioneering (elephant) researcher**
a ~ in Nairobi

**pioneering study**
his ~, "Sexual Behavior..." (Alfred C. Kinsey)

**pioneering work**
he has done ~ in this field (neural prosthetics)

**importance & significance: history**

**pipe (sports)**
full pipe
the park has a ~, bowls, vert ramp and fun box

halfpipe
snowboarders catch big air in the ~

quarterpipe
the landing area flows to a 27-foot-tall ~

**shape: infrastructure**

**pipe (go down the pipes)**
went down the pipes
our relationship ~

**failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / verb**
**destruction: infrastructure / verb**

**pipe dream**

pipe dream
it's not just a ~ anymore
remains a pipe dream
democracy ~ in places like the Congo and Sudan
dismissed as a pipedream
restoring function after paralysis can no longer be ~

fantasy & reality: addiction / mental health
pipeline (Pipeline, etc.)

Pipeline
~ is one of the world's most dangerous surf spots
~ has claimed its victims (fatalities)
Pipeline breaks
~ 30 feet from shore (Hawaii)
proper name: infrastructure
pipeline (shape)
waves, tubes, pipelines and barrels
the ~ of surfing
shape: infrastructure
pipeline (other)
drug pipeline
the ~ that runs through the reservation (border)
money pipeline
the US vowed to shut down the ~ that finances terror
route: infrastructure
piracy
Internet music piracy
music executives are trying to end ~
biopiracy
if the tribe does not share in the profits, it's ~ (Brazil)
taking & removing: crime
pirate (person)
pirate trade
its perceived benefits have fueled a ~ (tree frog)
music pirate
the industry is pursuing lawsuits against ~s (Internet)
porch pirates
they call them ~ (parcel thieves)
radio piratex
~s get on the bad side of the FCC
buccaneers, outsiders, (political) pirates
they want to be seen as ~ (opposition researchers)
counterfeit, pirate or bootleg (m)
seizures of ~ labels soared (music)
track down the pirates
~ (CDs, computer software, etc. / UAE)

♦ Somali pirates are now capturing ships closer to India than to Africa.
   Xaradheere is a notorious pirate town on the Somali coast.
   "[A] sudden check came in the form of a piratical incursion. A small
   prau arrived which had been attacked by pirates and had a man
   wounded. They were said to have five boats, but more were expected to
   be behind and the traders were all in consternation, fearing that their
   small vessels sent trading to the "blakang tana" would be plundered. The
   Aru natives were of course dreadfully alarmed, as these marauders
   attack their villages, burn and murder, and carry away women and
   children for slaves... Several praus went out in search of the pirates,
   sentinels were appointed, and watch-fires lighted on the beach to guard
   against the possibility of a night attack, though it was hardly thought they
   would be bold enough to plunder Dobbo. The next day the praus
   returned, and we had positive information that these scourges of the
   Eastern seas were really among us... They are said to be Sooloo pirates,
   but have Bugis among them. On their way here they have devasted one
   of the small islands east of Ceram..." (The Malay Archipelago
   by Alfred Russel Wallace. Chapter 30: The Aru islands & residence in Dobbo.)

♦ taking & removing: crime / person / sea
person: boat / crime / sea
pit bull (dog)
pit bull
she's a ~, sinks her teeth into a case and doesn’t let go
pit bull for the president
he has been a ~ (a lawyer)
coercion & motivation: animal / dog
commitment & determination: animal / dog
pitch (promote)
pitches the nation's charms
he ~ (tourism)

enthusiasm: speech / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: speech / verb
pitchfork (oppression)
pitchfork-wielding
they are derided as ~ hysterics (sensitivity readers)
oppression: allusion / creature
pitch in (help)
pitch in on child’s play
the government needs to ~ (no playgrounds, etc.)
help & assistance: throwing, putting & planting / verb
pitch-perfect (adjective)
pitch-perfect
his speech was ~ for his audience

flaws & lack of flaws: music / speech
pitfall (noun)
pitfalls of capital punishment
the case is an illuminating window into the ~
pitfalls of launching adolescents
it’s time to wake up to the ~ into an adult lifestyle (models)
pitfalls in interpretation
~ (seismic data interpretation by geologists)
scams, schemes, and pitfalls
the shadow world of literary ~
pitfalls await
many ~ the new House majority (politics)
avoids the pitfalls
his book ~ that come with its territory (a biography)
♦ Hunters dig pitfalls to catch animals. V. K. Arseniev writes about the practice in his rediscovered classic "Dersu Uzala." As Dersu explained, hunters built fences that blocked animals from their water source. The wooden barricades could stretch for miles through the taiga. At intervals along the fence were openings for the forest deer to get through. At those openings the hunters dug the pitfalls. Both Arseniev and Dersu were disgusted that the hunters did not fill in the pitfalls when they left the area, leaving the trapped animals to die and rot.
danger: hunting / walking, running & jumping
pivot (noun)
remarkable pivot
this represents a ~ for the State Department (in Iraq)
reversal: direction / mechanism
development: direction / mechanism
pivotal
pivotal elections
these are ~ (Zimbabwe after Mugabe)
pivotal (naval) battle
it was a ~ (Battle of Trafalgar)
pivotal people
name five ~ in your life
pivotal (backstage) role
he played a ~ in persuading...
development: direction / mechanism
importance & significance: mechanism
place (resting place)
resting place
the sub would never move from its ~ (sunk)
place: burial
euphemism: burial / death & life
plague (verb)
plague patients with (long hospital) stays
infections ~
plagued California for years
blackouts have ~
plagues Vermont all winter
a remedy for the cabin fever that ~
plagued him for years
depression had ~
plague Guatemala
police corruption, lawlessness and drug trafficking ~
plagued Russia
illegal logging has long ~ (Siberia)
plagued the south
the lawlessness that ~ (Somalia vs. Somaliland)
plagued him
injuries ~ (an athlete)
affliction: health & medicine / verb
plague (noun)
plague of locusts
its worst ~ in nearly 30 years (Afghanistan)
plague of (gold) prospectors
the natives faced a ~
plague of (Western) wildfires
the annual ~ (US)
plague of drugs and prostitution
victim's relatives have worried about the ~
crack plague
the ~ of the late 1980's

cellphone plague
the ~ began in the 1990s (a teacher / schools)
HIV plague
the growing ~
NotPetya plague
the servers that played the role of patient zero in the ~
growing (HIV) plague
the ~
annual plague
the ~ of Western wildfires (US)
plague began
the cellphone ~ in the 1990s (a teacher / schools)
faced a plague
the natives ~ of gold prospectors
consider motoboys a plague
ordinary motorists ~ (Sao Paulo)
♦ The great traveler Ibn Battuta recorded that during the Plague of 1348 in Damascus, representatives and members of the three major religions—Muslims, Jews, and Christians—all made their way to the Mosque of the Footprints with their holy books to pray for the end of the sickness. Ibn Battuta recorded that in Damascus deaths reached under 2,000 people a day, while in Old Cairo they reached 24,000 a day.
♦ China has been periodically ravaged by plague, including 1911 and 1917. A. J. Cronin writes about plague during that period in his novel, "The Keys of the Kingdom," and so does Mary Ninde Gamewell in "New Life Currents."
affliction: health & medicine
amount & effect: health & medicine
plagued
plagued with violence
Southern Thailand has been ~ for years
plagued with cracks
the monument is ~, leaks and corroding surfaces
plagued by drugs
her life has been ~ and other personal demons
plagued by (sectarian) violence
Karachi has been ~ (Shiites / Sunnis)
plagued by homesickness
he was ~ (student)
plagued by (cost) overruns
the project has been ~ (Big Dig / Boston)
plagued by coups and dictators
Mauritania has been ~ since independence
plagued by faulty elevators, mold, and leaky roofs
the 33-story building is ~

accident-plagued (m)
accident-plagued I95
corruption-plagued
~ civilian governments (Pakistan)
crash-plagued (m)
the innovative but ~ aircraft
crime-plagued (m)
a ~ neighborhood
deficit-plagued
the ~ Federal Government
injury-plagued
after an ~ season in Europe (sports)
insurgent-plagued
Haditha, a lawless, ~ city in Anbar Province
mine-plagued (m)
African children live on the most ~ continent
mosquito-plagued (m)
Siberia's ~ expanse
scandal-plagued (m)
a ~ program (Alabama football)
the ~ former prime minister
violence-plagued (m)
in ~ Iraq

affliction: health & medicine

planet (noun)
planet in the Arab world
Egypt is a ~
importance & significance: astronomy

plank (noun)
plank of the investigation
the obstruction charge was a secondary ~
bases: infrastructure

plant (put)
planted a bomb
he ~ along the route (terrorist)
planted the explosives
he would not speculate about who might have ~
planted a (political) minefield
the British colonizers ~ in the 1920s (Sudan)

throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant / verb

plant (create)
plant the seeds
the British helped to ~ of discord in Afghanistan
Nasser wanted to ~ of revolution on the Arabian Peninsula
planted the seeds
he ~ that gave principals more autonomy (education)
planted and tended
as field director, she has ~ chapters across the country
creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant / verb

plastered (impression)
plastered across magazine covers
her face was ~

impression: materials & substances

plate (step up to the plate)
step up to the plate
it's time to ~ and take responsibility
stepped up to the plate
he could have ducked it but he didn’t, he ~ (honesty)

responsibility: baseball / sports & games / verb

plate (on one's plate)
a lot on his plate
he has ~ and wants to get back to work (Obama)
have a lot on your plate
I know you ~ (busy)

work & duty: food & drink

plateau (noun)
hit a plateau
if you slip up or ~, don't beat yourself up (weight loss)

progress & lack of progress: mountains & hills
shape: mountains & hills
increase & decrease: mountains & hills / shape
plateau (verb)
    slightly plateaued
        she has ~ (decreased need for sex)
    increase & decrease: mountains & hills / shape
platform (noun)
platforms to bloggers
    his show gave ~ like…
attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater
play (verb)
play to their base
    he expects Republicans to ~ for a time
    performance: theater / verb
play down (verb)
    played down concerns
        the Pentagon has ~ over the Chinese fighter (plane)
played down the importance
    Democrats ~ of the findings (politics)
played down the incident
    he ~
attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / verb
attenuation: theater / verb
play (play out)
play out
    how do you think this will ~ (a sports scandal)
playing out
    all this was ~ in Washington (controversy)
play out along the border
    anger and confusion continues to ~
development: rope / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: rope / verb
playbook
playbook
    others are taking a page out of that ~
follow the (administration’s) playbook
    nominees closely ~
script: books & reading / sports & games
playground
playground for Westerners
    Nairobi, once a favorite ~ in Africa…
summer playground
    Lebanon’s resorts were the ~s of wealthy Arabs
whitewater playground
    the ~s do not freeze in winter (city of Vancouver)
rapids-filled playground
the river is a ~ (paddle sports / the Gauley)
environment: school & education
playing field (uneven playing field, etc.)
uneven playing field
    corruption and greed have created an ~ (college admissions)
playing field has been tilted
    they claim the ~ has been tilted in China’s favor
flaws & lack of flaws: sports & games
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sports & games
playing field (level the playing field)
level the playing field
    the changes will ~ (sex cases on campus)
amelioration & renewal: sports & games / verb
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sports & games / verb
plod (verb)
plod along
    he expects Republicans to ~ for a time
    progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
speed: journeys & trips / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
plot (verb)
plot new lives
    freed miners in Chile ~
direction: journeys & trips / map / verb
plot line (development)
torn up the (division’s proposed) plot lines
    Andy Ruiz Jr has ~
development: theater
plow (plow through, etc.)
plowed through the (review) books
    I ~ (studying for test)
plowing ahead
    we are ~ (difficult medical research)
work & duty: farming & agriculture / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: farming & agriculture / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: farming & agriculture / verb
plow (put)
plowed their money into gun smuggling
    they have ~ (ex-pirates)
throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / verb
directing: farming & agriculture / verb
plug (verb)

plug the hole
the Ministry of Defence must find savings to ~ in their budget

amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / verb / water

plug (pull the plug)
pulled the plug on the project
homeland security ~ (border towers)
pulled the plug on the show
CBS ~
pulling the plug on its mascot
the university is ~ (getting rid of it)
pull the plug on the (global) talks
no one is quite ready to ~ (climate)
pull the plug on hate radio
we need to ~
time to pull the plug
it's ~ on the project
decided to pull the plug
they ~ on their marriage
threatening to pull the plug
investors are ~
curtailment: infrastructure / verb / water
dismissal, removal & resignation: infrastructure / verb / water

plugged (fixed)
holes have been plugged
the security ~ (computers)

amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / water

plugged in / into
plugged into politics
people who are very ~

division & connection: electricity

plum (desirable)

plum assignment
the final ~ at the end of a distinguished career;
it was a ~ for a young detective

plum commission
won the ~ for the library (architecture)

plum (committee) seats
promises of ~ (politics)

superlative: fruits & vegetables
worth & lack of worth: fruits & vegetables
flaws & lack of flaws: fruits & vegetables

plumbing (noun)
plumbing of the Internet
the copyright legislation messes with the secure ~

plumbing components
the essential ~ are the routers (Internet)

economy's plumbing
financial data centers put much of the ~ in one place

Internet's plumbing
we're now seeing attacks on the ~
he wants to create standards to secure the ~

bases: infrastructure

plume (shape)

plume
~s started blowing off the summit (Everest)

plumes of ash
sending out ~ and three rivers of lava (volcano)

plume of cyanide
a ~ reached to the Black Sea (spill into Danube)

plume of dust
a rockslide sent up a ~

plume of (sarin) gas
blowing up the Khamisiyah dump released a ~ (Iraq)

plume of smoke
the ~ from a rocket-propelled grenade

plumes of smoke
sent up huge ~ (military air strikes)

plume of water
on the left is a huge ~ called "The Thing" (kayaking)

plume altitude
information about ~ (volcanic eruption)

plume bifurcation
~ was visible (volcanic eruption)

ash plume
~s from the two volcanoes

sarin plume
US troops in the path of a huge ~ (Gulf War)

smoke plume
~s streaking diagonally through the sky (shuttle disaster)

vapor plume
traces of water in a ~

classic plume
you can see the ~ blowing off the top right now (Everest)

huge plume
sending a ~ of smoke into a cloudless sky (air strike)

toxic plume
bombing chemical sites could sent up ~s
radiological or biochemical plume evacuation in the event of a ~
in the path of a (huge sarin) plume US troops ~ (Gulf War)
♦ Many species of birds were nearly driven to extinction by plume hunters eager to make money from adorning women's hats. At one time, cormorants and egrets were mercilessly hunted for their feathers.

**shape: animal / bird**

**plummet (decline / decrease)**

plummeted from $5.9 to $3.3 billion spending at the agency ~
plummeted out of contention the team ~ (sports)
business has plummeted its advertising ~
levels can plummet women's testosterone ~ as they age
morale had plummeted ~ (US soldiers / Vietnam War)
price (of gold) has plummeted the ~
rates have plummeted crime ~ over the last decade
production plummeted agricultural ~, leading to growing unemployment
temperature can plummet the ~
wages plummeted ~, and the black market flourished
blood pressure plummeted his ~
output plummeted economic ~ and unemployment rose

**increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / verb**
**decline: direction / flying & falling / verb**

**plunge (plunge into something)**

plunge into (dangerous sexual) behavior newly released prisoners often ~ (H.I.V.)
plunge into the ocean ~ of pleasure (ad for porn Web site)
plunge into my subject before I ~… (lecture)
plunging into the unknown we are ~ (new technology)

**involvement: flying & falling / water / verb**

**plunge (involvement)**

take the plunge it was time to ~ (begin dangerous trek)

**involvement: flying & falling / water**

**plus (benefit)**

plus to us he has been a ~ (versus a detriment)
negative or a slight plus tariffs might be a ~

**cost & benefit: letters & characters**

**poach (verb)**

poached rival quarterbacks he ruthlessly ~ (leader of a league)
poached several employees from Apple the company ~

**taking & removing: crime / verb**

**pursuit, capture & escape: crime / verb**
poached
poached by (software giant) Oracle
she was ~ (prodigy)

taking & removing: crime
pursuit, capture & escape: crime

pocket (deep pockets)
deep pockets
the Gulf's ~ beckon (arms sales)
money: purses & wallets

point out (verb)
point out that
let me ~ I wasn't...
pointed out that
he ~ murder is illegal in all societies
pointed out
Chevron Texaco ~ it was already doing a lot... (Nigeria)
another cause of concern, he ~, are the lack of road signs...
pointed out in the NYT magazine
as she ~...
pointed out the blunder
only when he ~ did Hutchison... (Everest)
pointed out the inconsistencies
liberals have long ~ of conservative support for...
pointed out problems
media stories have ~ in assisted living...
neglects to point out
what he ~, though, is that...

point (sticking / friction point)
sticking points
so what are the ~ in these talks (tariff negotiations)
flaws & lack of flaws: mechanism

point (tipping point)
tipping point
we're at that ~ (demand for antibiotic-free meat)
what was the ~ that made the company say, “Enough is enough”
Syria's tipping point
this could be ~ (pro-democracy protests)
reached a tipping point
he thinks 3D has reached a ~ (new normal for films)

development: direction / mechanism

point man (person)
point man
he is the ~ for the administration's efforts to... (politician)

* The point man is the lead man in a column of soldiers. He goes a bit ahead of the group and must look for snipers, mines, and booby traps. The enemy may shoot him dead. Or, the enemy may shoot to wound him and then pick off anyone trying to come to his aid. Or, the enemy may let him pass and shoot at the main body of men, leaving him cut off without support. Walking point is nerve-racking and dangerous and can literally drive a soldier crazy.

point of view (from somebody's point of view)
from the point of view of concealment
select supply positions ~
from the point of view inside his (climbing) boots
it was written ~ (Boukreev's "The Climb")

from Abdul Tawab's point of view
~, the marriage helped his position
from the animals' point of view
~, the marriage helped his position
(from animal rights, cruelty, eating meat, etc.)

from the destroyers' point of view
Native Americans ~
from the enemy's point of view
consider the traps ~ (military)

from a spectator's point of view
~, the most interesting match was...

from our point of view
characteristics which are catastrophic ~ (a terrorist)

from your point of view
which country is most promising ~ (Central Asia)
from an Indian point of view
museum exhibitions ~ (Native Americans)
from the Japanese point of view
the film is told ~ ("Letters from Iwo Jima")
he tells the story of Iwo Jima ~ (Clint Eastwood film)

from an intelligence point of view
~, this is a problem
from the policy point of view
another aspect, again ~ (educational establishment)
from a safety point of view
to improve things ~ (motor racing)

from a driving point of view
~ you know what’s happening (racing)

from a human point of view
its scope and setting is horrible ~ (terror)

from a military point of view
~, we don’t face any threats (Uzbekistan)

from a pragmatic point of view
~, don’t… (monitoring employees)

from a scientific point of view
~, geothermal power is touted as "clean"

from a practical point of view
~, we don’t face any threats (Uzbekistan)

from a pragmatic point of view
describe an event from two (different) points of view

imagine it from their point of view
~ (toilet training for toddlers)

told from his point of view
the story is ~

told from the Japanese point of view
the film is ~ (Letters from Iwo Jima)

sense of perception, perspective & point of view: position

point of view (other)
point of view
depending on your ~
their parents denied or ignored their ~ (suicidal kids)
point of view of concealment
select supply positions from the ~

point of view of tourism
a Hawaiian ~

employer’s point of view
an ~ (on hiring) (job searching)

people’s points of view
~ are influenced by their language and culture
each other’s point of view
it is important to try to understand ~

another person’s point of view
it is important to understand ~

public health point of view
he patiently explained the ~ (an epidemic)

Hawaiian point of view
a ~ on tourism

Nez Perce point of view
increased emphasis to the ~ (park sites)

minority point of view
the ~

outlaw point of view
his affinity for the ~ (teacher in jail)

conflicting points of view
good articles tend to be built on ~ (journalism)

differing points of view
these ~ (in the "education" community)

opposing points of view
two ~ of the same situation...

clear point of view
she has a very ~

different point of view
in order to understand a ~

different points of view
we seek out sources with ~ (free press)
people have ~ (culture, circumstances, etc.)

strong point of view
reluctance to offer a ~ on civics (education)
excellence often involves taking a ~
a ~ can even work against you

two (different) points of view
describe the same event from ~
differences in point of view
those ~ fueled the debate (Confederate flag)

affinity for the (outlaw) point of view
his unconcealed ~ (teacher in jail)

denied or ignored their point of view
their mother and father ~ (suicidal kids)

explained the (public health) point of view
he patiently explained the ~ (an epidemic)

understand each other’s point of view
it is important to try to ~

| Nasreddin was lying on the bank of a river, relaxing. Across the water, he saw a man. The man shouted, “Hey, how to I get to the other side of the river?” Nasreddin shouted back to him, “You are on the other side of the river!” |

| A FUNNY STORY. A city man decided to visit his relative in the countryside. He made a sign that said, “Gone to the countryside,” posted it to his door, and set off. He drove through the desert. Then he drove off road, following tracks in the sands. At a certain point he could drive no more, so he got out and walked the flat barren empty gravel desert. Finally, he reached his relative’s house. On the door, he saw a sign: “Gone to the countryside.” |

| “Where you stand (on an issue) is determined by where you sit.” |

perception, perspective & point of view: position poised (adjective)

poised on Baghdad's doorstep
coalition forces are ~

poised to lose
the party is ~ the elections
poised to write
he is ~ a triumphant new chapter (Obama)

readiness & preparedness: equilibrium & stability

poison (verb)
poison the atmosphere
fear and distrust can quickly ~ (epidemic)
poison (everyday) life
  trivialities ~
poison the project
  this academic feud began to ~ (undersea mapping)
♦ Perhaps the worst mass poisoning of a population in history has taken place in Bangladesh. Around 25 million people have been exposed to arsenic through runoff from agriculture and industry into man-made ponds and the water table. Ironically, many of the contaminated ponds and boreholes were dug with the help of international relief organizations to protect villagers from unclean water.

corruption: materials & substances / verb
poisonous (adjective)
poisonous
  the taint of a bankruptcy can be ~
  the rot in Pakistani society is more ~ than anyone thought (violence)
poisonous atmosphere
  a "~" has descended on the Times (firings)
poisonous (political and rhetorical) climate
  politics suffers from a ~
poisonous doctrine
  he was an antidote to the ~ of extremism
poisonous mix
  he despises the ~ of religion and politics (an Iraqi)
poisonous situation
  it was a ~ (politics and war)

feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances

poker (game)
high-stakes poker
  this is ~ (a business decision)
strategy: cards / gambling

poker-faced
poker-faced
  they were ~
poker-faced (young) man
poker-faced chairman
  the ~

appearance: cards / face / gambling
feeling, emotion & effect: cards / face / gambling

polarizing (adjective)
polarizing figure
  he is a ~ (a football coach)
intensely polarizing
  among intellectuals, he is ~

division & connection: direction

police (thought police, etc.)
behavior police
  the ~ don’t just stick to soccer (women in sports)
cultural police
  ~ punish writers for using their imagination (sensitivity)
outrage police
  the ~ are calling for him to be fired (TV news culture wars)
thought police
  he called Facebook "~" (for removing his posts)
parenting police
  she has run afoul of the ~ (the marvelous singer Pink)
oppression: justice / person
control & lack of control: person

police (verb)
polices (his kid's gaming) habits
  he ~ carefully
police students’ speech
  universities should not ~ so carefully

control & lack of control: justice / verb

polish (verb)
polished the image
  the Klitschko brothers have ~ of the sport (boxing)
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances / verb
amelioration & renewal: light & dark / verb

polished (adjective)
polished professional
  there is a vulnerable woman beneath the ~
polished speaker
  he is a ~ who hits just the right tone (Beto O'Rourke)
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

pollute (verb)
polluted airwaves
  rudeness has ~
corruption: water / verb

polluted
polluted with incivility
  the airwaves are ~

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 471 of 982
polluted with sex
our children's minds are being ~

polluted with spam
Web searches on health are ~

polluted (political) rhetoric
we must clean up our ~

polluted sea
pop music has become a ~

corruption: water

Pollyanna

Pollyanna
not everything goes smoothly, and she is not a ~
I am no ~
I don't want to be a ~, but tomorrow is another day

Pollyanna appeal
the film has a ~

Pollyanna territory
she explores optimism without tipping into ~

feel like (such) a Pollyanna
I ~ here…

sound (too) Pollyanna
do I ~

turned me into a Pollyanna
the awards show has ~

accused of being a Pollyanna
he isn't usually ~ (a financier, stock-market guru)

♦ Pollyanna was a character from the 1913 children's-literature novel by Eleanor H. Porter. A Pollyanna is a person who is incredibly optimistic even in the most dire circumstances, and the word is often used in the pejorative sense.

corruption: water

character & personality: allusion

Pollyannaish (adjective)

Pollyanna-ish (and calming) assumption
it was the ~ of some analysts that while…

Pollyanna-ish notion
he mocks the ~ that nations hate war

seems (oddly) Pollyanna-ish
at times, he ~ about his future

sounding Pollyanna-ish
I know I'm ~, but…

character & personality: allusion

Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)

“Pompeii of the East”
the site is known as the ~ (1815 eruption of Mount Tambora)

Pompeii of the New World
Cerén is sometimes called the ~ (El Salvador)

♦ Pompeii and the nearby town of Herculaneum were buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. The excavated Pompeii is today a Unesco World Heritage Site and a time capsule for life in the Roman era.

ruins: allusion / epithet / place / volcano
epithet: volcano

pontificate (verb)
pontificate on any subject
he was ever ready to ~ (Thomas Edison)

speech: religion / verb

poodle (noun)

UK poodle
the US government and its ~
dominance & submission / resistance, opposition & defeat:
animal / dog

pool (verb)

pool and share
enhance the ability of the FBI and CIA to ~ information

group, set & collection: water / verb

pool (people)

pool of (available) brides
the ~ is scarce... (rural China / Loess Plateau)

pool of candidates
he'd looked at the entire ~ (government)

pool of (prison-educated) college graduates
the ~

pool of test takers
the ~ has grown larger

adjunct pool
spent 7 years in the ~ in Atlanta (Ph.D.)

applicant pool
the ~ has doubled (entry to a Jesuit boys' high school)

employment pool
Seattle offered an ideal ~

jury pool
strike eccentric citizens from ~s
~s for money are generally illegal (sports)

labor pool
the shrinking ~ will slow growth

media-pool (m)
a ~ representative in the execution witness room

office pool
~s for money are generally illegal (sports)

press pool
and as the ~ left the room

talent pool

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 472 of 982
the company’s ~ is remarkable
shrinking (labor) pool
the ~ will slow growth
ideal (employment) pool
Seattle offered an ~

group, set & collection: water
pool (things)
pools of information
databases are vast ~
pool of (two- and three-year-old) used cars
the ~
car-pool (m)
~ lanes
envy pool
women are little ~s with one another

group, set & collection: water
pop up (verb)
popping up in (third-tier) cities
writers are ~ (China)
appearance & disappearance: direction / plant / verb
portal (entrance)
portals to the underworld
Maya culture long considered cenotes to be ~
portals for discovery
mistakes are the ~
portal back to the 1960s
the book offers a vivid ~
portal: doors & thresholds / gate
portrait
portrait of life
he painted a grim ~ in North Korea
grim portrait
he painted a ~ of life in North Korea
painted a (grim) portrait
he ~ of life in North Korea
characterization: picture
possessed
possessed by rage
he was ~
feeling, emotion & effect: mental health / religion
fictive possession: hand
post (abandon one’s post)
abandon his post
he will not ~ to run for governor

work & duty: military / verb
allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb
poster (poster child, etc.)
poster boy for everything
he became a ~ that was wrong with boxing
poster boy for how
he is a ~ to do it well (a fund-raiser)
poster boy for the sport
he was considered the ~ (Ray Mancini / boxing)
poster child for the spoiled athlete
he's a ~
poster child for ignorance
he has become a ~ (racist)
representation: picture / sign, signal, symbol
post-mortem (analysis)
post mortem
I’m sure after the ~ people will analyse and... (sports)
campaign post-mortem
her book is a ~
election post mortem
Republican governors perform ~
focus of post-mortems
the bridge’s design will be a ~ (collapsed)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: death & life
posture (position)
posture of (ADA) units
the readiness ~ (military)
posture on the border
the force has increased its security ~
posture as tough on terrorism
he seeks to exploit his ~
posture, stance, attitude
what surprised you most about China's ~ (diplomacy)
assault posture
the Iraqis were in a classic air-land ~
security posture
the force has increased its ~ on the border
readiness posture
the ~ of ADA units (military)
systems posture
we will review our ~ based on events (White House)
aggressive posture
put his troops in a more ~
defensive posture
destroyed 10 Iraqi T-55 tanks dug in a ~
the Israeli counterattack has all of Lebanon in a ~
nuclear posture (m)
the classified ~ review (US government)
protection posture
it causes us to maintain ~s but doesn’t stop us (BW)

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying**

*posture (performance)*
defiant posture
Iraqi officials struck a ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
tough-guy posture
he hides behind a ~

*performance: standing, sitting & lying*

*posturing*
partisan posturing
after days of ~ by senators, she was confirmed (judge)
political posturing
a lot of the rhetoric is just ~ (politics)
finger-pointing and (political) posturing
we must put behind us ~ and solve this problem

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying**

*posture (performance)*

**potato (small potatoes)**
small potatoes
I think it’s ~ compared to... (politics)

**importance & significance: potato / size**

*potency (strength)*
potency of this
the ~ is beyond the individual services (aircraft carrier)

*functioning / strength & weakness: health & medicine*

*attenuation / force / power: health & medicine*

*potent (adjective)*
potent
the ideology is very ~ (Isis)
politically potent
the Arab community is not as ~

*functioning / strength & weakness: health & medicine*

*attenuation / force / power: health & medicine*

*potent (adjective)*

**potshot (noun)**
potshot
a few ~s have been aimed at him (criticism of artist)
potshot approach
I don’t like that kind of a ~ (politics and criticism)
gleeful potshots
Republicans are taking ~ at Democratic opponents
two potshots
they loved her ~ at the state’s Republican governor
take potshots at Harvard
people like to ~ (elitist, rich, politically correct, etc.)
taken (more than a few) potshots at his home state
he has ~ over the years
takes potshot at whatever is bothering him
he takes ~ (comedian)

**accusation & criticism: weapon**

*pounce (verb)*
pounce
Schmeichel held on to the ball as Aguero waited to ~
pouncing
his opponents are ~ (politics)
pounced on the story
British tabloids ~
quick to pounce
the Obama campaign was ~ (on opponent’s gaffe)

♦ An article about tigers at the BBC states that a tiger can leap forward 33 feet from a sitting position!

*predation: animal / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping*

eagerness & reluctance: animal / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping

*potshot (noun)*

*pound (amount)*
pound of cure
an ounce of prevention is worth a ~ (proverb)

*amount: weight*

*pound (verb)*
pounded the Northeast
record snowfalls have ~
pounding the Northeast
the hurricane is ~
pounded targets
US aircraft ~ in Libya

*hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / verb*

*pour (in, into, out, etc.)*
poured in
complaints ~
pouring in
  casualties from the attack started ~ (to a hospital)
poured out
  thousands of protestors ~ of the mosque
poured into (neighboring) Turkey
  thousands of Syrians ~
pouring into Iraq
  terrorists from every group are ~
pouring into Kabul
  with rural migrants and refugees ~
pour into the city
  thousands of delegates began to ~ for the… (UN)
poured into hospitals
  scenes of anguish as civilian casualties ~
pour into his office
  messages ~ from disaffected Saudis (dissident)
poured into the slum
  police ~ in armored cars (Paraisopolis / São Paulo)
pouring into streets
  Jewish worshippers ~ following sundown prayers
aid poured in
  international ~ and disaster was averted…
leads poured in
  the ~ (70,000 / child abduction)
invitations have been pouring in
  ~ (to speak at colleges / author)
praise poured in
  ~ for Carter (Oslo agreement)
amount & effect: verb / water
movement: verb / water
pour (put)
pour fuel on the fire
  this will ~ of toxic political warfare
pour fuel on the flames
  the documents are likely to ~ of a strained relationship
pour gases into the air
  factories ~
poured his heart and soul into the game
  he ~ (Reggie Miller speaking of Larry Bird)
poured our hearts into the movement
  we really ~ (social justice)
poured money into improvements
  King Fahd ~ (Haj)
poured money into its Web site
  the company phased out its catalogue and ~
poured my soul into it
  I ~ (singing performance)
pour its resources into transit
  some question whether the region should ~
poured effort and money into developing
different companies have ~ jets
poured (intense) fire into the position
  he ~, killing three enemy as…
pour (deadly) fire upon the enemy
  Pfc. Lozada continued to ~ (combat)
poured a stream of fire at the enemy
  undaunted, he ~ (combat)
pouring on the pressure
  he is ~ (a boxing match)
throwing, putting & planting: verb / water
directing: verb / water
pour (resemblance)
pouring over the mountains
  dark storm clouds were ~
pour downhill
  boulders ~ in debris flows
resemblance: verb / water
powder keg
powder keg
  Northern Nigeria is a ~ (sectarian divisions)
  the region is a ~, and things could bet out of hand
human powder keg
  plantation owners knew they were sitting on a ~ (race)
handle (political) powder kegs
  he knows how to ~ (president)
danger / initiation: explosion / military / weapon
powerhouse (noun)
powerhouse (investment) bank
  the ~ Goldman Sachs
powerhouse (legal) team
  he was represented by a ~ (rich pedophile)
global powerhouse
  US whalers were a ~ (in the past)
ratings and merchandizing powerhouse
  it is a ~ (Sponge Bob cartoon show)
driving force: dam / electricity
power: dam / electricity / river
strength & weakness: dam / electricity
praise (sing someone's praises)
singing his praises

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 475 of 982
I have been ~ ever since he joined Liverpool (sports)

achievement, recognition & praise: music / verb

pray (verb)

praying that
Democrats are ~ the case will disappear

wants, needs, hopes & goals: religion / verb

preach (verb)

preach about what
my father would ~ we could do and couldn't do

preaches against the evils
Sports Illustrated periodically ~ of steroid use

preaching to the choir
we are ~ (a drug program / parents)

preaching a gospel (of rebirth) to everyone
he is ~ (Detroit mayor)

preaching a gospel
he is ~ of rebirth (Detroit mayor)

preach hate
school textbooks ~ for religions other than Islam

preach the virtues
many ~ of diversity and tolerance, yet…

practices what he preaches
he ~ by hiking regularly (fitness)

message: religion / speech / verb

speech: religion / verb

precipice (at the precipice)

at the precipice of (epic) failure
he stands ~ (politician)

stands at the precipice
he ~ of epic failure (politician)

proximity: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
deforestation: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

precipitous (adjective)

precipitous deterioration
their daughter's ~ in the month before her death

decline: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills

predation

predations of (unscrupulous) business people
Africa can defend itself against the ~…

defend themselves against the predations
young people must know how to ~ of credit

predation: animal

Predator (UAV)

Predator
a Hellfire air-to-ground missile launched from the ~
the ~ is a medium-altitude, long-endurance drone

Predator drone
an unmanned ~ (military)

Predator unmanned aerial vehicle
the ~, a 27-foot-long drone
the ~ is operated remotely by controllers on the ground

proper name: animal / military / predation

predator (people)

predators on the Internet
the problem of sexual ~
predators and the prey
in prison, there are the ~
predators and thieves
they are all ~ (bankers)

online predator
~s trying to have sex with children
within minutes, he heard from his first ~ (Webcam)

lethal predators
~ are psychopathic, sadistic, and sane (evil)

serial (sexual) predator
he was a ~ (pedophile)

sexual predator
dealing with ~s (pedophile)
the problem of ~s on the Internet
Web cams are a magnet for ~

sexual-predator (m)
six states have ~ laws

prey and predator
he believed people fell into two groups: ~
evolved into a (serial) predator
how a high-school dropout ~

♦ If you are not a wolf, a wolf will eat you.

predation: animal

predatory (adjective)

predatory business
Internet gambling is a ~

predatory coach
~s are some of the most successful (sex abuse)

predatory educators
I view for-profit collages as ~, like predatory lenders

predatory lender
the poor fall prey to ~s

predatory priest
the archdiocese is accused of harboring ~s

predatory publisher
the company is a ~ (fees, no checking, fake lists)

predatory lending
~ is alive and well (credit cards)

criticize (payday) loans as predatory
consumer advocates ~ (300 percent annual interest)

predation: animal

prehistoric (adj)

prehistoric (college football) coaches
~ are killing players (heat stroke, etc.)

knowledge & intelligence: history
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history

prescription

prescription
the diagnosis is wrong, and the ~ is malpractice

prescription to save
a ~ globalization from itself

prescription for disaster
it was a ~ (girl wants acceptance, boys like alcohol)

script: health & medicine
amelioration & renewal: health & medicine

press (verb)

press him
I had questions, but I didn’t ~

coercion & motivation: pressure / verb

pressure (under pressure)

under (relentless) pressure to boost
schools ~ scores
under (enormous) pressure to succeed
children are ~ (education)
under the pressure of (battle) conditions
the unit performed well ~

under pressure from Washington
Saudi Arabia has come ~ to reform
under pressure from the Vietnamese-Americans
~, the museum left out…

pressure from (animal rights) groups
under ~

pressure from higher-ups
the recruiters are under ~ (military)

under enormous pressure
children are ~ to succeed (education)

under relentless pressure
schools ~

come under pressure
Saudi Arabia has ~ from Washington to reform

plays well under pressure
the team ~

feeling, emotion & effect: pressure
coercion & motivation: pressure

pressure (noun)

pressure
the ~ leads his colleagues to "blow up" from time to time

pressure to be
they face strong family ~ dutiful sons

pressure to succeed
there’s a lot of ~ (Chinese athletes)

pressure to open up
the ~ areas like Badger-Two Medicine and ANWR

pressure of allies
the ~ who counsel against war

pressures of his job
feeling overwhelmed and unable to cope with the ~

pressures of sex, drugs and alcohol
the ~ (adolescents)

pressures (and stress) of everyday life
escape the ~ (an inn)

pressure from (hardline) Muslims
Saudi Arabia faces internal ~

pressure from Moscow
because of political ~

pressure from (the other) players and parents
she felt ~ (ice-hockey goalie)

pressure from abroad
~ is responsible for the government’s about-turn

pressure from family members
the relentless ~ (India)

pressure on the adversaries
diplomatic ~ to seek a diplomatic solution

pressure on (arable) land
population ~

pressures on Muslims
the social ~ can be intense (US high schools)

pressure on police
people are scared and there’s a lot of ~ (murders)

pressure on getting
there’s so much ~ good grades

pressure in the Alps
increasing settlement ~ and avalanche…

pressure along the Appalachian Trail
growing development ~
pressure and competition
  society is full of ~ (China / suicide)
pressures and stress
  escape the ~ of everyday life (an inn)
development pressure
  growing ~ along the Appalachian Trail
diplomatic pressure
  he faces increased internal and international ~ (a ruler)
government pressure
  ~ kept the book under wraps
immigration pressure
  ~ on Germany or even Italy
job pressure
  freedom from ~s
population pressure
  ~ on arable land
schedule pressure
  I do not think we are being unduly influenced by ~
settlement pressure
  increasing ~ in the Alps and avalanche…
added pressure
  he expected ~ (NASA scientist, after series of failures)
sustained pressure
  ~ from the European imperialist powers
academic pressure
  ~ and peer pressure in schools
diplomatic pressure
  ~ on the adversaries to seek a diplomatic solution
family pressure
  they face strong ~ to be dutiful sons
intense pressure
  she was under ~ to join the boycott (Olympics);
  teenagers will be under ~ to… (early puberty)
internal pressure
  Saudi Arabia faces ~ from hardline Muslims
political pressure
  because of ~ from Moscow
relentless pressure
  the ~ from family members (India)
  schools under ~ to boost students’ performance
social pressure
  the ~s on Muslims can be intense (US high schools)
  the ~s on middle school girls (acceptance, sex, etc.)
strong (family) pressure
  they face ~ to be dutiful sons
so much pressure

there’s ~ on getting good grades
freedom from (job) pressures
anger under pressure
  he has shown ~ in the past (police chief)
pressure is building
  ~ to end the 18-year moratorium on whaling
ease the pressures
  ~ on common resources (medicinal plants, etc.)
escape the pressures
  ~ and stress of everyday life (an inn)
face (strong family) pressure
  they ~ to be dutiful sons
felt pressure
  she ~ from the other players and parents (sports)
put on the pressure
  keep up the pressure
  we need to ~
come under pressure from Washington
  Saudi Arabia has ~ to reform
crack under pressure
  favored competitors have been know to ~ (cycling)
strike under the pressure
  some people ~ (stressful, demanding jobs)
thrive under (enormous) pressure
  some people are able to ~ (jobs)
put pressure on their children to achieve
  parents ~
prevail in the face of (extraordinary) pressures
  the boldness that enabled him to ~ (Musharraf)

feeling, emotion & effect: pressure
pressure cooker

pressure cooker
  the White House is a ~ that can burn out idealistic aides
  despotism is a ~ without a safety valve (protests)
  our son graduated from the ~ that is Cornell
  he was a ~ who lacked a safety valve (murderer)
pressure cooker of the San Siro
  he did a good job in the ~ (a soccer player)
pressure cooker of ideas
  the California scene in those days was a ~ (art)
pressure-cooker atmosphere
  the accusations underscore the ~ in the region
pressure cooker environment
  high school can be a ~ (bullying, sex, etc.)
reputation as a pressure cooker
  M.I.T. is battling a ~ (student suicides)
environment: pressure

**pressured**

pressured to choose
many students feel ~ sides (rape allegation at school)
pressured to cooperate
his client is being ~ in the investigation
feel pressured
many students ~ to choose sides (rape allegation)
I ~ to fit a prescribed mold (work)

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

**coercion & motivation: pressure**

**pressure-filled**

pressure-filled environment
this ~
pressure-filled meeting room
in a ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: pressure**

**prey (prey on somebody)**

prey on (homeless) addicts
drug dealers who ~
preyed on parents’ fears
he ~ (university admittance fraud)
preyed on the political prisoners
criminals ~ (gulag)
prey on ego and greed
regal-sounding diploma mills ~

**predation: animal / verb**

**prey (fall prey to something)**

fall prey to (unscrupulous) agents
don’t ~ (sex trafficking of Nepalese to UAE)
fell prey to the (voracious) sun
eight ~ (stranded whales)
fall prey to traffickers
older women can ~ (sex trafficking)
fall prey to HIV
as many as 45 million people will ~ (by 2010)

**predation: animal / verb**

**prey (other)**

prey for terrorists
subways, shopping centers are easy ~
prey and predator
he believed people fell into two groups: ~
easy prey
subways, shopping centers are ~ for terrorists
their status outside the law makes them ~ (migrants)
predators and the prey
in prison, there are the ~
makes them (easy) prey
their status outside the law ~ (illegal immigrants)
regard girls as prey
boys ~

**predation: animal**

**price (noun)**

price to pay
a little bit of sexism is a small ~ for a lot of attention
price to be good
he’s willing to pay the ~ (an athlete)
price of doing
the ~ the same old thing is higher than price of change
price of fame
Hinckley forced Jodie Foster to think hard about the ~
price of freedom
"the ~ is eternal vigilance"
price of hypocrisy
the ~ has never been lower (politicians and sex)
price of liberty
eternal vigilance is the ~ (Thomas Jefferson)
price of peace
the costs of war and the ~ (soldiers)
price of success
weary but optimistic, he weighed the ~ (a rapper)
price of war
white tombstones, a reminder of the ~ (Arlington)
they pay the ~ with their arms and legs (civilians)
price of our inaction
the ~ will be paid by our kids (unplanned growth)
price for writing
there is a ~ your mind (journalist in conflicts)
price for (their) fame
celebrities pay a huge ~

**price for freedom**
the ~ is high (fight against terrorists)
price for your sins
Jesus Christ paid the ~

**heavy price**
fame came with a ~
**high price**
we paid a very ~ (military commander, casualties)

**huge price**
celebrities pay a ~ for their fame

**small price**
a little bit of sexism is a ~ to pay for a lot of attention

terrible price
but Knievel's fame came at a ~ (daredevil / injuries)

paid the (ultimate) price
she ~ (drug death)
you have to be willing to ~ (surfing)

weighed the price
weary but optimistic, he ~ of success (a rapper)

comes at a price
user-friendliness ~

came at a (terrible) price
but Knievel's fame ~ (daredevil / injuries)

comes with a price
fame ~

have a price
false hope can ~ (unproven treatments)

♦ No sin without a price

cost & benefit: money

price tag
price tag
obsessive attention to the ~ is misleading
there's no ~ you can put on it (hearing a wolf in the wild)

cost & benefit: money

prick (verb)
prick (overinflated) reputations
a critic should ~ (poetry)

affliction: sensation / verb

prince (epithet)
Prince of Cartography
John George Bartholomew, called the "~"

prince of surgeons
Lister, the ~, hugged Pasteur (1892)

superlative: epithet / royalty
epithet: royalty

prince (person)
little prince
I got used to being the ~ (first-born Asian male)

superlative: person / royalty
person: royalty

princess (person)
princess
she thinks a ~ in a pink gown is kid stuff (Halloween)

princess phase
every little girl goes through a ~ (US / pink)

princess or angel

I want to be Britney Spears, no more ~ (Halloween)

pop princess
teen ~ Britney Spears
teen (pop) princess
~ Britney Spears

fairy-tale (princes and) princesses

superlative: person / royalty

prism (through the prism)
through the prism of its own ideology
the US sees the world ~

through my own ethnic prism
I view the world ~

looks at Israel through the prism
he ~ of his Christian faith (Bush)

sees his role through the prism
Bush ~ of the war on terror (Middle East)

perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology

prism (other)

ethnic prism
my own ~ sometimes distorts my perspective

ideological prism
his ~ has not changed (Qaddafi / anti-imperialism)

perception, perspective & point of view: tools & technology

prisoner (constraint)
prisoners of our own doctrine
we were ~ (Israelis in 1973 war)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime

prisoner (no prisoners)
take-no-prisoners (m)
the ~ approach to justice
his aggressive, ~ attitude was always on display (a coach)

punishment & recrimination: military

prize (noun)

prize
it was their biggest ~ yet in the 18-day old war (airport)
she has some obstacles between her and the ~ (candidate)

Arctic prize
perhaps the biggest ~ is oil and natural gas

strategic prize
the city is a vital crossroads and a ~ (war)
An Nasiriya is considered a ~ (Iraqi Freedom)

considered a (strategic) prize
An Nasiriya is ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
cost & benefit: money
wants, needs, hopes & goals: money
prized

prized in China
the saiga horn is ~ as a traditional remedy (Mongolia)

prized as an ingredient
the saiga horn is ~ of Chinese medicine

prized (in China) as a (traditional) remedy
the saiga horn is ~

prized as dairy cattle
the kuri are native to the Lake Chad region and ~

prized for their odor
durians are ~ (fruit)

prized for their taste
edible wild mushrooms are ~ (poisonings)

prized by the (local) Bushmen
ostrich eggs are greatly ~ (water containers)

prized by Iran, North Korea and terrorist groups
a stash of weapons-grade uranium that would be ~

prized dish
they're a ~ at restaurants (Cat Ba langurs)

prized fur
llamas and their ~

prized (QB) recruit
Alabama beat Tennessee for a ~

horn is prized
the saiga ~ in China as a traditional remedy

greatly prized
ostrich eggs are ~ by the Bushmen

most prized (m)
sable was the ~ accessory in the courts of Europe

profit (verb)
profit from lessons learned
he was confident that he could ~

cost & benefit: money / verb
worth & lack of worth: money / verb

profile (low profile)

low profile
US citizens should maintain a ~ (terrorism)
Westerners keep a ~ in line with embassies' advisories
my company was ~
keep a low profile
Westerners ~ in line with their embassies' advisories

maintain a low profile
Americans should ~ (terrorism overseas)
US citizens should ~ (Saudi Arabia)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: height
profile (high profile)

high-profile case
~s involving sex
the police are under pressure to solve the ~

high-profile disappearance
it was the nation's fourth ~ of a child

high-profile intellectual
Mr. Ramadan is not just a professor but a ~

high-profile target
the US is a ~ (terrorism)

highest-profile (soccer) star
he is one of the world's highest-paid and ~s

attention, scrutiny & promotion: height
profile (attention)

profile of atheists
raising the ~ in America (a march)

profile in the US
trying to raise the sport's ~ (table tennis)

profile in the region
the US has raised its military ~ (Korea)

sport's profile
trying to raise the ~ in the US (table tennis)

military profile
the US has raised its ~ in the region (Korea)

profile soared
her ~ spectacularly in 2016 (after interviewing Trump)
raised her profile
the endorsement ~ (a politician)

raise the (sport's) profile
trying to ~ in the US (table tennis)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: height

profile (picture)

profile of the killer
he created a ~

profile of the women
construct a reproductive ~ in the tribe

profile of Los Angeles
as the demographic ~ changed (police department)

profile parameters
~ for Arab terrorists

person's (personality) profile
a ~ is a powerful influence

consumer profile
portal sites are doing a lot with ~

credit profile
customers with even riskier ~s (phone companies)

criminal profile
techniques for developing a ~

flight profile
the dangerous potential of the ~ (aircraft crash)

mule profile
he fit the ~ (busted drug courier at airport)

personality profile
a person's ~ is a powerful influence

DNA profile
the law mandates taking a ~ of all criminals
the F.B.I. maintains a national database of ~s

detailed profile
~s that include the donors' health history

criminal profile
techniques for developing a ~

demographic profile
as the ~ of Los Angeles changed (police department)

different (homicidal) profile
he appears to fit a ~

discernible profile
these victims do not fit any ~ (spree killings)

geographic profile
~s use crime locations to determine…

homicidal profile
he appears to fit a different ~

particular profile

victims usually fit a ~, such as prostitutes…

psychological profile
construct a ~ of a serial killer
the FBI is working on developing a ~ of the suspect
FBI ~s of the Green River killer appear to match him

reproductive profile
construct a ~ of the women in the tribe

profile had suggested
an FBI ~ the kidnapper is a predator, and possibly…

profile (also) suggested
the ~ that the killer… (FBI-created profile)

construct a (psychological) profile
~ of a serial killer
developing a (criminal) profile
techniques for ~

fit a (particular) profile
victims usually ~, such as prostitutes…

fit any (discernible) profile
these victims do not ~ (spree killings)

fit the (mule) profile
he ~ (busted drug courier at airport)

characterization: picture

prognosis (noun)

grim prognosis
the ~ was consistent with new figures (world economy)

scientific prognoses
grim ~ have come to pass (death of the Amazon)

condition & status: health & medicine

future: health & medicine

progress (verb)

case has progressed
a lot has happened as this ~

progress & lack of progress: movement / verb
development: movement / verb

Promised Land

painted the North as a promised land
he ~ (Robert Sengstacke Abbott of Chicago Defender)

superlative: allusion / Bible / religion

environment: allusion / Bible / religion

prong (river)

South Prong
the ~ of the Current River

branching system: animal / horn

prophet (person)

prophets
some of these ~ had been spectacularly wrong (stocks)
mantle of a prophet
he increasingly adopted the ~
turned (doomsday) prophet
the news anchor ~ (the film *Network*)

future / message: religion
person: religion

**prop up (verb)**

props up North Korea with aid and trade
China ~
prop up his government
foreigners ~ (Venezuela)
prop up (global) growth
China may not be able to ~
props up Maduro
the military ~ (Venezuelan leader)
prop up her spirits
though her body sagged, her doctor helped ~

amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb
allegiance, support & betrayal: infrastructure / verb

**proselytize (verb)**

proselytize for his government
his political allies are expected to ~ (workers)

message: religion / verb
speech: religion / verb

**prowl (on the prowl)**

on the prowl for (naïve) girls
Internet predators are always ~

predation: animal

**prune (verb)**

prune the budget
they are seeking ways to ~ (government)

dismissal, removal & resignation: farming & agriculture / plant / verb

public-spirited
~ citizens
~ journalists

ccharacter & personality: religion

**pull (tidal pull)**

tidal pull
the ~ of Berkeley was strong on her (academic)

attraction & repulsion: sea / tide

**pull (pull for someone)**

pulling for you
we’re ~

allegiance, support & betrayal: burden / verb

**pull (pull together)**

pull together
we all ~ (hurricane)

work & duty: burden / verb
unanimity & consensus: burden / verb

**pull back (verb)**

pulled back
he ~ after giving the green light and go order (military)
pulled those ships and planes back
he ~ (called off military attack)

starting, going, continuing & ending: verb
avoidance & separation: verb

**pull out (verb)**

pull out of the agreement
they want to ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: burden
dismissal, removal & resignation: burden / verb

**pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.)**

pulpit
television is the ~ from which they preach (politics)
presidential bully pulpit
Obama should use the ~ to address entitlements
pulpit and the megaphone
use the ~ of the office to highlight human rights

message: Bible / religion / speech

pulsating (adjective)

pulsating contest
in a ~, Ward produced a composed performance (boxing)

feeling, emotion & effect: movement

**pulse (noun)**

pulse of the planet
the satellites allow scientists to take the ~ (climate)
pulse of the (Israeli) public
the polling firm regularly takes the ~
oceans' pulse
robot subs help to take the ~
taken the pulse
we have ~ of sex in the US today (survey)
keep our finger on the pulse
help us to ~ (popup survey at a website)
condition & status / measurement: blood
pummel (verb)
pummeled him over the cost
   Republicans ~ of the bill (politics)
pummels Midwest with snow
   spring blizzard ~
pummeled Barbados
   the hurricane ~
pummeled Midwest
pummeled the company's earnings and stock prices
   the problem has ~
pummeled her rival
   she ~ (a tennis match)
hitting, slamming & lashing: boxing / fist / verb / violence
accusation & criticism: boxing / fist / verb / violence
pummeled
pummeled
   the bank's shares have been ~
pummeled in the media
   she has been ~ (a leader)
pummeled for failing
   he has been ~ to solve the problem
pummeled by conservatives
   he was ~ for even broaching the topic (politics)
pummeled by the storm
   the area was ~
pummeled by both sides
   he has been ~ (Obama)
pummeled by drugs and crime
   the neighborhood has been ~
hitting, slamming & lashing: boxing / fist / verb / violence
pump (direct)
pumps $20 million into the (local) economy
   rafting ~ (Summersville, WV)
pumped (new) life into the (martial-arts) genre
   he ~
pumped (more than) $100 million into (city) schools
   the Gates Foundation has ~
   directing: verb / water
pumped (directed)
pumped into the facility
   for all the money that was ~
   directing: pump / water
pumped (feeling)
so pumped
   others were not ~ (eager to deploy to Iraq)
   feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / pump
pump up (verb)
pump up your confidence
   ~ (job hunting)
pumped the rookies up
   having ~, he now deflates them… (NFL camp)
   increase & decrease: air / atmosphere / mechanism /
pump / verb
   feeling, emotion & effect: air / atmosphere / mechanism /
pump / verb
punch (punch above one's weight, etc.)
fight above our weight
   we're going to have to ~ (politics)
punches above its weight
   Hungary ~ in math, it has produced many mathematicians
   power / substance & lack of substance: boxing / verb /
weight
   effect: boxing / verb / weight
punch (sucker punch / verb)
sucker punched France
   the US has ~ (scored a goal against run of play)
   subterfuge: boxing / fist / verb
punch (pull a punch)
pulled no punches
   he ~ when he spoke of the president (cursed him)
   prosecutors ~ (called him a liar, thief, cheat)
   the women wrote the toughest scrips, they ~ (Chris Meloni)
pulled his punches
   he was very direct, never minced his words or ~
   restraint & lack of restraint: boxing / speech / sports &
games / verb
   speech: boxing / sports & games / verb
punch (punch back)
punching back
   he wants Trudeau to keep ~ (trade war)
   resistance, opposition & defeat: boxing / verb
punch (roll with the punches)
roll with the punches
   you just have to ~ (government shutdown)
   survival, persistence & endurance: boxing / verb
   resiliency: boxing / verb
**punch (beat somebody to the punch)**

beat Kim to the punch
   it was a way for Trump to ~ (cancel meeting before Kim could)

**sequence:** boxing / verb

**readiness & preparedness:** boxing / verb

**punch (force)**

punch
   Atlantic Beach was feeling Hurricane Isabel's ~

knockout punch
   he is looking for a ~ (political race)

most brutal punch
   the storm saved its ~ for New England

one-two punch
   the ~ has devastated wildlife (algae and red tide)
   the extinction could have been a ~

**hitting, slamming & lashing:** boxing / fist / violence

**punch (effect)**

punch-counterpunch
   this kind of ~ makes Canadians nervous (trade war)

emotional punch
   the play packs an ~

rhetorical punch
   she landed a ~ (at a political debate)

**feeling, emotion & effect:** boxing / fist / violence

**punchline (joke)**

punchline
   he is a ~ (athlete who failed, choked, blew it)

**insult:** speech

**punctuate (verb)**

punctuate her points
   her hands move emphatically to ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion:** letters & characters / verb

**punctuate (configuration)**

punctuate the horizon
   huge red-rock walls and pillars ~ (Utah / Indian country)

**configuration:** letters & characters / verb

**puncture (verb)**

punctured Slater's aura
   he ~ of invincibility (surfing)

puncture (widely held) beliefs
   the allegations ~ about how he operated

**destruction:** air / atmosphere / verb

**punt (verb)**

punt to the courts
   the strategy is to ~ and run out the clock (politics)

punted their decision back to him
   they ~ (did not decide themselves)

punted on a major test
   the Supreme Court ~ (gerrymandering)

punted on what to do
   the Supreme Court ~

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

**puny (adjective)**

puny (bailout) mechanism
   we must extend the euro's too ~

**strength & weakness:** health & medicine / size

**puppet (control)**

puppet
   she was a ~ under his control
   promoters run the shop, the guys in the ring are just ~s (boxing)

puppet master
   some say he is a ~ of the news media (WikiLeaks)
   he is the ~ of a brutal human-trafficking group

puppet ruler
   Nazi ~s in Croatia killed thousands (Jasenovac)

**control & lack of control:** puppet

**puppet (sockpuppet / internet)**

sockpuppet
   a sockpuppet is an online identity used for purposes of deception (Wikipedia)

**computer:** puppet

**subterfuge:** puppet

**puppeteer (noun)**

cast Murdoch as a ~, controlling British politics
   they ~ through is partisan newspapers

**control & lack of control:** puppet

**purgatory (noun)**

period of purgatory
   he had been living in a ~ (pilot’s crash kills people at air show)

remain in purgatory
   the refugees ~

**situation:** religion

**action, inaction & delay:** environment: religion
**purse (money)**

purse of seventeen million dollars
a ~ (boxing match)

total purse
the ~ is at least $475,000 (New York Marathon)

**money: purses & wallets**

**purse strings**

controls the (family’s) purse strings
he ~

controls the purse strings
Congress ~

**money: purses & wallets**

**pursue (pursue a dream, etc.)**

pursue it with (great) vigor
I intend to ~ (full investigation)

pursue their (own hidden) agendas
factions ~ outside of the law

pursue (both old and new) approaches
NASA will ~ simultaneously

pursue an (acting) career
he moved to Los Angeles to ~

pursue a (film) career
left her TV show to ~

pursue the case
the Pakistani government vowed to ~ (rape of girl)

pursuing a doctorate
he was ~ in computer sciences at…

pursue her dream
she quit her job to ~ of becoming…;

pursue a dream
people who switched courses late in life to ~

pursue an education
it is in his interest to ~ in computers or technology

pursue my education
the thing that will make me happiest is to ~

pursue (higher) education
women who delay marriage to ~ and a career

pursued her goal
she ~ by studying…

pursue your interests
you can certainly find an hour a day to ~

pursue (other) interests
I want to have time to travel and ~

pursue its (own strategic) interests
the US should ~ (vs. high-minded goals)

pursuing (even quadruple) majors
students are ~

pursue these matters
but we'll ~ further to build on… (diplomacy)

pursue (military) objectives
army forces must ~ energetically

pursue opportunity
they left to ~ in California (black Okies)

pursue (new job) opportunities
the ability of workers to ~

pursue (other) opportunities
she resigned, saying the time had come to ~

pursue the opportunity
she encouraged him to to ~ (of study abroad)

pursue all possibilities
he said investigators would ~ (blast)

pursue this
I think it's wrong to ~, we should let it drop

pursues his vision
Wangurri clan Elder Timothy Buthimang ~

pursue a film career
left her TV show to ~

pursue its lawsuit
the company retained the right to ~ if…

pursued a (ruinous) economic policy
he has ~ (a president)

whether to pursue
the lawyers will determine ~ further appeals
continue to pursue
and so we will ~ a relationship with Russia that…

aggressively pursued
if it had ~ an investigation (FBI / 9/11 terrorists)

**pursuit, capture & escape: hunting**

**pursuit (in pursuit)**

in pursuit of (economic) development
Native American tribes ~

in the pursuit of their duties
they are overzealous ~ (Saudi religious police)

in pursuit of goals
~ that are political, religious, or ideological (terrorists)

in pursuit of gratification
cybersex addicts risk jobs, marriages ~

in their pursuit of justice
rape victims often find cultural bias ~ (Mexico)

in the pursuit of knowledge
men swear off women ~
push (attainment)
pushing $500
the price of gold is ~ an ounce
attainment: arm / verb

push (push somebody away, etc.)
push him away from me
I don't want to ~ (relationship)
avoidance & separation: arm / verb

push (summit push, etc.)
push for acceptance
the public ~ of its technology (Microsoft)
push for (Maori) rights
the ~ (New Zealand)
push for the summit
the final ~ began in the evening
summit push
in anticipation of a ~ the next day (K2);
waiting to begin the final ~ (Camp IV / Everest)
final push
the ~ for the summit began in the evening
next big push
the US retrenches for its ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

difficulty, easiness & effort: arm

push back (verb)
push back
they are preparing to ~
pushed back against the military’s claim
he ~ of impropriety (a filmmaker)
resistance, opposition & defeat: arm / verb

pushback (noun)
pushback from Congress over the treaty
do you expect any ~
resistance, opposition & defeat: arm

pushed around
pushed around
we will not be ~ (tariff war)
coercion & motivation: arm

pushed (pushed out)
pushed out of better paid work into lower paid work
they were ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: arm
pushing
pushing the extremes ~ of calculational speed (a supercomputer)
pushing a quick pace with Heras ~, they passed Jalabert (Tour de France)
pushing for an Islamic state ~ in Egypt
pushing for a place ~ in the cell-phone business
pushing yourself into unknown realms adventure is ~
commitment & determination: arm
push (push on)
pushed on in spite of the insults, she ~ (lesbian soldier)
starting, going, continuing & ending: force / journeys & trips / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: force / verb
resiliency: force / verb
pushover
no pushover the Iraqi Army was no ~
difficulty, easiness & effort: arm
pushy (people)
pushy knowing how to be encouraging without being ~ (kids)
pushy parents the problem of ~ in public schools
pushy people don’t let ~ affect your decisions
pushy stage mother I’m not a ~
come across as pushy or you’ll ~
behavior / character & personality: arm
coercion & motivation: arm
put (put something back together)
put my life back together I’m trying to ~
putting his life back together he was just ~ after being sexually assaulted
put the talks back together negotiators have been scrambling to ~
amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / mechanism / verb
resiliency: infrastructure / mechanism / verb
put (put something together)
put it together nobody ~ (clues leading to a spy)
put these pieces together when we ~, we have a better idea about…
analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle / verb
put (put something to rest)
put the matter to rest Cook had now ~ (no Southern Continent)
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: burial
put (put somebody through something)
put me and my family through I had to forgive the media for what they ~ (Bill Buckner)
affliction / oppression: mechanism
putty (noun)
putty in the hands according to the code, students are ~ of all-powerful professors
control & lack of control: materials & substances
character & personality: materials & substances
put up with (verb)
put up with it they are a nation of terrorists, and we won’t ~
put up with this enough is enough, I’m not going to ~
survival, persistence & endurance: verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: verb
puzzle (problem)
puzzle I’m happiest working on ~s (chemist)
puzzle-solving there is ~ in all technical climbing
puzzles, riddles and real-life problems solving ~ (forensic science)
piece of the puzzle that was the ~ we needed (crime tip)
pieces of the puzzle gather as many ~ as possible (investigation)
pieces of a puzzle one agency can have ~ that another agency is missing
larger puzzle it might be a key piece in the ~ that is emerging (investigation)
unlock the (whole) puzzle
a tiny detail can ~ (police investigation)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: puzzle
comprehension & incomprehension: puzzle

puzzling

puzzling comment
not long after hearing this ~...
puzzling details
investigators were trying to make sense of some ~
puzzling disease
making some sense of this ~
puzzling news
this was ~ indeed...

comprehension & incomprehension: puzzle

pygmy (size)

pygmy goat
visitors pet ~s (at a zoo)

pygmy parrot
the ~ is so small it fits in a human hand (Madagascar)

size: person

pyramid (hierarchy)
tip of the (tennis) pyramid
it seemed impossible they could regain the ~
tennis pyramid
it seemed impossible they could regain the tip of the ~
at the apex of the (economic) pyramid
those individuals ~
at the bottom of the economic pyramid
new jobs are coming ~ (poorly paid jobs)
at the top of the pyramid
the people ~ know exactly what they are doing (justice)

hierarchy: history / shape

Pyrrhic victory

Pyrrhic victory
the confidence vote may prove to be only a ~

◊ “If we are victorious in one more battle with the Romans, we shall be utterly ruined.”

resistance, opposition & defeat: allusion
resistance, opposition & defeat: military
cost & benefit / success & failure: military

quagmire (noun)
quagmire of Vietnam
we're in the ~ (war in Afghanistan)
quagmire of (boxing) negotiations
the two camps are swimming through the ~
fear of a (Somalia-like) quagmire
~ which could have endangered US troops (Rwandan genocide)
digging themselves deeper into the quagmire
they are ~ (an embattled regime fighting to survive)

obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land
progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land

quail (movement)
covey of quail
everyone scattered like a ~

movement: animal / bird

quarantine (verb)
quarantine (suspicious) files into sandboxes
systems ~ (computing)

protection & lack of protection: health & medicine / verb
avoidance & separation: health & medicine / verb
acceptance & rejection: health & medicine / verb
cost & benefit / success & failure: health & medicine / verb

computer: health & medicine / verb

queen (Queen of Soul, etc.)
Queen of Crime
Agatha Christie, the so-called ~ (mystery writer)

Queen of Soul
Aretha Franklin, the ~ (singer)

queen of her sport
she is the ~ in her country (speedskater)

Queen of Soul Food
Sylvia Woods, the ~ (Sylvia's Restaurant in Harlem)

superlative: epithet / person / royalty

epithet: royalty

queen (role)
queen bees
selecting ~ from the most productive colonies

queen-size (m)
a queen-size bed

beauty queen
the Georgia ~ is accused of murdering her boyfriend

Coffee Queen
she won the popular title of ~ (Argentina)

drag queen (m)
~ theater

drama queen
Nikki is fussy, she's a ~ (sister)

Festival Queen
Nicholas County Potato ~ (West Virginia)

opera queen
  gimlet-eyed ~s

soap-opera queen
  the ~ Susan Lucci

powwow queen
  this year's ~

homecoming queen
  she was ~ her senior year (high school)
  a gay student who ran for ~ caused a huge stir
  students elected their first male ~ (university)

King and Queen
  the coronation of a Geek ~ (Geek Prom)

kings and queens
  homecoming, the American tradition featuring ~

call María Lionza the queen
  devotees ~ (Maria Lionza religion / Venezuela)

superlative: person / royalty
person: royalty

queen (Dairy Queen, etc.)
Queen Elizabeth
  the ~ is the third Cunard ship of that name

Queen Charlotte Islands
  the ~, or Haida Gwaii (British Columbia)

Dairy Queen
  Faisal found a job at ~

proper name: royalty
quest (in a quest)
in our (never-ending) quest to be
  ~ more, and do more

in the quest for peace
  the deal was a necessary concession ~

in their quest for profits
  companies often change business strategies in their ~

pursuit, capture & escape: Middle Ages
searching & discovery: Middle Ages
quest (on a quest)
on a (widely publicized) quest to ascend
  she was ~ Everest

go on a (vision) quest
  ~ with the help of a medicine man

pursuit, capture & escape: Middle Ages
searching & discovery: Middle Ages
quest (other)
quest to ascend
  her widely publicized ~ Everest ended in disaster
woman’s quest
   one ~ for love, lust, adventure

airlines’ (decadelong) quest
   ~ to create frictionless travel

vision quest
   go on a ~ with the help of a medicine man

never-ending quest
   in our ~ to be more, and do more

widely publicized quest
   she was on a ~ to ascend Everest

ceaseless quest
   in the ~ to stake out bigger slices of the market

her quest
   she isn’t about to give up ~ anytime soon

personal quest
   he was on a ~ to…

spiritual quest
   jihad can also mean one’s private ~

private spiritual quest
   jihad can also mean one’s ~

decadelong quest
   airlines’ ~ to create frictionless travel

century-long and decade-long quest
   this ~ (genome achievements)

three-year quest
   their ~ to impose dosage restrictions

start of their quest
   the ~ to dethrone the champs (NBA)

exhaustive but fruitless quest
   the ~ for a scientific basis for…

go on a (vision) quest
   ~ with the help of a medicine man

give up her quest
   she isn’t about to ~ anytime soon

made reliability its quest
   Toyota ~

pursuit, capture & escape: Middle Ages

searching & discovery: Middle Ages

question mark

question marks
   he has got a lot of ~s (a suspect athlete)
   the ~ hovering over their rematch (boxing)

question mark over the evidence of… (criminal trial)
   so now there is a ~

certainty & uncertainty: letters & characters

quicksand (in / into the quicksand)
   in the quicksand of organized crime
   ~, murder is an option for solving disputes

obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land

quiet (adjective)
   gone quiet
   the gangs have ~

seek quiet
   Israel does ~, with elections only a week away (fighting)

activity: sound

quiver (noun)
   presidential quiver
     he will use every arrow in his ~ to get his will

group, set & collection: weapon

quixotic (adjective)
   quixotic campaign
     he finally ended his ~ for the GOP nomination this week

quixotic project
   each of them pursued a ~ (two inventors)
   ♦ This adjective comes from Don Quixote de la Mancha by Cervantes.

fantasy & reality: allusion / person

R

rabbit hole

rabbit hole
   the Percocet could have sent her down a ~

rabbit hole of conspiracy theories
   simply typing “federal reserve” led students down a ~

informational rabbit hole
   clicking on the links would propel me down an ~ (Title IX)

Internet rabbit hole
   following a browser down some weird ~ (surfing)

populist rabbit hole
   the country is diving down a ~ (Czech Republic)

follow Trump down the rabbit hole
   when people ~, that’s when we lose (a Democrat)

fantasy & reality: addiction / allusion / animal / hole / mental health / person

rabid

rabid fans
   ~ that make for a true sports town

rabid supporters
   there are many ~ of death for blasphemy (Pakistan)
Human rabies symptoms include: hallucinations, including tactile ones such as a sensation of insects crawling around in the mouth; delirium; muscle spasm; paralysis; hydrophobia at the sight or sound of water; hyper-salivation; agitation; difficulty swallowing; neck pain; and deviation of the tongue.

**behavior: animal / dog / health & medicine / wolf**

**rabidly**

rabidly intolerant
they are ~ of Israel

rapidly opposed
Republicans ~ the legislation

**race (time)**

raced to its end
as the term ~ (university)

time: movement / walking, running & jumping

**race (hurry)**

racing to take credit
politicians are ~ for the initiative

speed: walking, running & jumping / verb

**competition: walking, running & jumping**

**race (politics)**

race in Hawaii
an all-female ~ (for governor)
race for the White House
the quadrennial ~

closely fought race
other ~s just outside Washington
closely watched race
in the most ~ in Virginia (politics)
quadrennial race
the ~ for the White House
in the (most closely watched) race
~ in Virginia (politics)

**competition: government**

**race (arms race)**

arms race with spammers
this has been a bit of an ~ (CAPTCHAS)

arms race to build plush new dorms and stadiums
Berea College has opted out of the college ~
technological arms race
the stock market has become a great ~ (electronic)

**competition: sports & games**

**race (competition)**

race to build
the ~ computer chips out of individual molecules

race-to-the-moon (m)
the glorious ~ days

arms race
the ~ and mutual misunderstanding
Southeast Asia is facing a regional ~

**competition: sports & games**

**race (race to the bottom)**

race to the bottom
we are engaged in a ~ (two states wooing companies)

decay: direction / sports & games / walking, running & jumping

**race (race against time, etc.)**

race against time
saving endangered animals is often a ~
we are in a ~ (disaster relief)

race-against-time (m)
it's a classic ~ film

in a race with the clock
we are ~

race is on
the ~ to save the Gulf (oil spill)

timeliness & lack of timeliness: competition / sports & games

**competition: sports & games**

**radar (on the radar)**

on the radar
he has long been ~ of groups following hate groups

on their radar
he had been ~ for a long time (trafficker)

on anyone's radar
it's not really ~ (Pakistan's contribution to warming)

on our radar
he came ~ when we were looking through footage (riot)

consciousness & awareness: tools & technology
attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology

**radar (below / under the radar)**

under the (cultural) radar
men-only clubs operating for decades under the ~

went below the radar
it really ~ (a piece of news)

work below the radar
they work best when they ~ (ICRC / POWs)
keep him under the radar
we are trying to ~, out of the spotlight (troubled athlete)

consciousness & awareness: tools & technology
attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology
radar (drop off the radar)
dropped off the radar
several of the men have "~" (terrorists)

consciousness & awareness: tools & technology / verb
appearance & disappearance: tools & technology / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology / verb
radar (under the radar screen)
under the radar screen
girls' aggression often passes ~ (school bullying)
well under the radar screen
flying ~ was a move by Congress to…
flying (well) under the radar screen
~ was a move by Congress to…
passes under the radar screen
girls' aggression often ~

consciousness & awareness: tools & technology
attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology
radar (radar screen)
radar screen
I want this on everybody's ~ (kids need more sleep)
films like "Good Will Hunting" put him on our ~

Hollywood's radar screen
he popped onto ~ two years ago with…
national radar screen
he disappeared from the ~ 4 years ago (a coach)
blip on the radar screen
Ecstasy is no longer a ~ (the club scene)
fell off the radar screen
both men ~ (terrorists)
disappeared from the (national) radar screen
he ~ 4 years ago (a coach)
popped onto (Hollywood's) radar screen
he ~ two years ago with…
put him on our radar screens
films like "Good Will Hunting" ~ (an actor)
radar screen went dark
then the ~ where Heinrich was concerned (child murder)

consciousness & awareness: tools & technology
attention, scrutiny & promotion: tools & technology
radioactive (adjective)
radioactive in the Arab world
NATO is ~ and seen as a tool of US imperialism
radioactive for them
Democrats have decided the issue is ~ (gun control)
radioactive words
the play contains ~ (relating to race, sexual identity)

avoidance & separation: nuclear energy
raft (amount)
raft of books
there have been a ~ about the case
raft of shell companies
he set up a ~
raft of research
there has been a ~ lately that…

amount: boat
rail (verb)
railed against the government’s trade policies
he ~

accusation & criticism: sound / speech / verb
speech: sound / verb
rail (off the rails)
off the rails
it seems like he is ~ (behavior of celebrity)
off-the-rails speech
everyone is talking about his ~
gone off the rails
science has ~, gone astray, many times (Havana syndrome)
went off the rails
he ~ after moving to the big city (Brazil)
failure, accident & impairment: train
behavior: train
rail (third rail)
third rail of politics
social security reform is the ~
third rail of (American) politics
this issue was once considered ~ (gun control)
third-rail issues
this is one of those ~ (criticism of Israel)
embraced the third rail
he has ~ of Republican politics (pro-immigration)
danger: electricity / train
railroad (verb)
railroad the sick into giving up
the healthy could ~ (assisted suicide)
railroaded him into seeking
he claimed the university had ~ publicity (cold fusion)

coercion & motivation: train / verb
oppression: train / verb
railroaded

got railroaded
people say they think he ~ (victim of #MeToo movement)

coercion & motivation: train

rain (amount and effect)
rained on (northern) Israel
Hezbollah rockets ~
rained debris for (more than) 10 miles
the explosion ~ (2 trains collide)
raining mud and ash
it is now ~ (eruption of volcano on Rabaul)

rockets rained
Hezbollah ~ on northern Israel

amount & effect: rain

rain (rain down)
rained down
more than a hundred cruise missiles ~ (Libya)

rain down missiles on Israel
they could ~
rained down on her
boos ~ (an athlete)

amount & effect: rain / verb

rainbow (searching and discovery)
end of the rainbow
Chile, to me, is the ~ (Bill Sharp / surfing)

follow every rainbow
~. ‘till you find your dream (song)

searching & discovery: atmosphere / sky

rainbow (color)
rainbow sheen
material or ~ on water (pollution incident)

color: atmosphere / sky

rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
Rainbow Falls
~ is on the Wailuku river in Hilo, Hawaii

rainbow trout
~ are predators

~ Many falls around the world are named Rainbow Falls. This is often because, when the light is right, you can see a rainbow in the mist at the bottom of the falls.

proper name: atmosphere / sky

rainbow (mixture)
rainbow mix
a ~ of Creole, Garifuna, Mestizo, Spanish, Maya (Belize)

rainbow nation
what Trinidadians call their “~”

→ Rainbows occur when it is raining while the sun is shining. To see a rainbow, turn your back to the sun. Look at your shadow on the ground. From the shadow of your head (the antisolar point), measure 42 degrees upwards, or about four fist widths with your arm held straight out in front of you, as if you were holding a stick in your fist vertically. There you may see the top of the rainbow. The sun must be less than 42 degrees above the horizon, so that you will never see a rainbow at noon on a summer day in the US, when the sun is high in the sky. At 51 degrees, you may see a second rainbow above the primary rainbow.

mixture: atmosphere / sky

rainforest (epithet)
rainforests of the sea
coral reefs are often called the ~

biodiversity: epithet

raise (attention)
raised (a number of ) issues
we both ~ (diplomacy)
raised objections
they have ~
raised a (fundamental) question
his firing ~
attention, scrutiny & promotion: height / verb

raise (feeling)
raise our spirits
she really ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / height / verb

rake in (verb)
rake in big money
lobbyists can ~ (government)
raked in more than $100 million
their business model has ~ (Somali pirates)

giving, receiving, bringing & returning: tools and technology / verb

rake up (verb)
raking up some horrible memories
we are ~ (a crime podcast)

searching & discovery: tools & technology / verb

rally (verb)
rallied the troops
she ~ (an executive of troubled company)
rallied around her
her fans ~ (controversy)
rallied behind him
conservatives have ~ (a minister in trouble)
allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb
assembling: military / verb
ramp (off-ramp)
diplomatic “off-ramp”
there appears to be no easy ~ in this crisis
starting, going, continuing & ending: infrastructure
rampart (protection)
rampart against militancy
France relied on Ben Ali as a ~
protection & lack of protection: fortification / military
rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.)
Upper Ramparts
the ~ is a canyon on the Porcupine River (Yukon)
proper name: fortification / military
rampart (other)
ramparts of the Hindu Kush
the Wakhan Corridor is cut off by the ~
resemblance: fortification / military
ramp up (verb)
ramping up our efforts
we are ~ (diplomacy)
increase & decrease: tools & technology / verb
rank (close ranks)
closed ranks around him
in the past they have always ~ (politics)
allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb
unanimity & consensus: line / military / verb
rank (break ranks)
break ranks
some democrats will ~
allegiance, support & betrayal: military / verb
unanimity & consensus: line / military / verb
rank-and-file (adjective)
rank-and-file rebels
she has secured her nominations after negotiations with ~ (politics)
allegiance, support & betrayal: military
unanimity & consensus: line / military
rape (verb)
raping me all over again
I felt like the system was ~
destruction: violence
rape (noun)
rape of (Indonesia’s) forests
the devastating ~
destruction: violence
rash (affliction)
rash of (home) burglaries
concern about a ~
rash of cases
a ~ occurred in Puerto Rico (early puberty)
rash of clashes
a recent ~ between bikers (motorcycle gangs)
rash of crime
gun sales are up after a ~
there has been a ~ against women
Academy officials have no explanation for the ~
rash of drownings
the ~ has tourism officials on the spot (Florida)
rash of abductions and murders
the impression of a ~ of children
rash of accidents and near misses
a ~ had spooked the sailors of the 7th Fleet
recent rash
the ~ of cybervandalism
affliction / amount / amount & effect: health & medicine
rash (road rash, etc.)
river rash
it's just ~ (scratches on used kayak)
road rash
he proudly showed off his ~ (skateboarder)
resemblance: health & medicine
rash (hasty)
rash decision
he made a ~ (short of money, he shoplifted)
haste: health & medicine
Rashomon (point of view)
Rashomon moment
this was a ~ meeting a Rorschach test (3-group confrontation on Mall)
Rashomon effect
the ~ refers to conflicting eye-witness accounts of an event
÷ In the 1950 film by Akira Kurosawa, four people give radically different versions about how a man ended up dead.
perception, perspective & point of view: allusion / film
rat (lab rat, etc.)

gym rat
  he's a ~
  he was the quintessential ~ (Larry Bird / basketball)
lab rat
  if you weren't such a ~, you would know that
mall rat
  my brother is a ~
pack rat
  I'm a bit of a ~ (hoarder)
river rat
  ~s (kayakers, rafters) versus the locals
  he has been a ~ since the age of 14 (guide)
"snow rat"
  he was a ~ from childhood (a snowboarder)
enthusiasm: animal / person / rat
rat (snitch)
  the other inmates think he's a ~, an informant
allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / person / rat
rat (smell a rat)
  smell a rat
  I ~ (something suspicious)
suspicion: animal / rat / smell
evidence: animal / rat / smell
rat race
  rat race
  deep into the ~, far from the finish line of retirement
corporate rat race
  many women drop out of the ~ (competition, etc.)
drop out of the (corporate) rat race
  many women ~ (competition, etc.)
  ♦ The Rat Race is for Rats! (A bumper sticker.)
  ♦ Even if you win the rat race, you're still a rat. (A bumper sticker.)
work & duty: animal / rat
  competition: animal / rat
ratchet up (verb)
ratcheted up its criticism
  the State Department has ~ of China on this issue
ratchets up the pressure
  this ~ on him (athlete receives sports award)
  his arrest ~
ratched up the pressure
  he has ~ on foreign oil companies
ratched up his (anti-American) rhetoric
he has ~
tensions ratchet up
  before a deployment, ~ (military families)
  ♦ A ratchet is a tool that can be used to tighten cables or metal strips. The pawl of the ratchet, which looks like a Toucan's beak, prevents slippage backwards. Deckhands on riverboats use ratchets to tighten cables that hold the barges together. Warehouse workers often use a ratchet to securely bundle together trash-compactged material, which is then taken away by a forklift.
increase & decrease: tools & technology / verb
increase & decrease: mechanism / pressure / verb
rattle (disrupt)
rattled some people
  I ~ (female CEO and former athlete)
rattle our cage
  don't ~
disruption: equilibrium & stability / sound / verb
rattled (feeling)
rattled
  the city is ~ (a series of murders)
feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability
rave (verb)
raved about her (smoky gray) eyes
  Multichannel News ~
speech: mental health / verb
ravenous (adjective)
ravenous for success
  he is ~
inтеллектually ravenous
  he was ~ (an academic)
  wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink
consumption: food & drink
raw (adjective)
raw
  her emotions are still ~
rubbed raw
  she was ~ emotionally (newspaper advice columnist)
  the battle ~ the country's cultural, gender and political divides
remain raw
  emotions ~
feeling, emotion & effect: sensation
ray (ray of hope, etc.)
ray of hope
  looking for a ~
evidence: atmosphere / light & dark
amount: atmosphere / light & dark
**razor** (razor-thin)

razor-thin margin
the election was decided by a ~

**size:** breadth

**reach (reach out)**

reached out to people
he has ~ who have been looked over (a fashion designer)
reaches out to his rivals
he ~ (politician)
reach out to students
universities ~ from all walks of life
reach out to those
it is not unusual for the Amish to ~ who hurt them
reach out to us
we hope he will ~ (cops seek contact with criminal)
reach out to (minority ethnic ) youth
the government has failed to ~ (France)
reach out to non-Muslims
~ and educate people about Islam

**division & connection: arm / verb**

**acceptance & rejection: arm / verb**

**reach (beyond reach)**

beyond our reach
what was once in our grasp is now ~

**attainment / proximity: arm**

**reach (within reach)**

within reach
the president has declared world peace ~

**attainment / proximity: arm**

**reach (extent and scope)**

gang’s reach
the ~ extends across America
reach was extended
the paper’s ~ by Pullman porters (Chicago Defender)

**extent & scope: arm**

**read (read something in something)**

read too much into it
don’t ~
read anything into that
but I really would beg you not to ~

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading / verb**

**read (analyze)**

read between the lines	hey fail to listen, observe and ~
~ and you can see...
you have to ~ to understand

read clues
the FBI’s failure to properly ~ available before 9/11

read a map
I can’t ~ to save my life

read your (electric) meter
how to ~ (utility brochure)

read my mind
you ~

read the (blocking) schemes
they know how to ~ (football players)

read the signs
if you can’t ~, you won’t survive (the taigá)

reads the signs
he ~ like a map ("Shadow Wolves" tracker)

read the sky
they pride themselves on their ability to ~ (hunters)

read a (financial) statement
she learned how to read a ~

read the weather, wind, sun, stars
a sailor must be able to ~ (sailing)

hard to read
Ohio is ~ (elections)

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: books & reading / verb**

**read (a sign can read something)**

altimeter read
my ~ 27,500 feet (Mount Everest)
banners read
huge ~ “Allez les Bleus” (World Cup soccer)
card read
his business ~ “Any kinds of Ladies’ Tailor and Skin, etc.”
decal (on the door) read
a ~ “In the name of Allah we enter...”
label reads
the ~, “Made in England”
poster read
the ~, “You’re Not Good Enough To Be A Marine”
radar read
the ~ 31,500, 25,400, and 18,300 (diving plane)
sign read
a hand-painted ~, “God Bless America”
watch read
   my ~ 1:17 P.M. (at the top of Mount Everest)

fictional communication: books & reading / verb

realm (area)
pushing yourself into unknown realms
   adventure is ~
   area: royalty

reap (verb)
reaped (vast) sums from (Nigerian) oil
   Shell has ~
reap (enormous political) support from the unions
   politicians can ~ (education)
reap their (biggest) profits by selling
   sex traffickers ~ virgins (Asia)
reaping a (bitter) harvest
   teachers are ~ (dislike by public)
reap the whirlwind
   he who sows the wind shall ~ (Bible)

product: farming & agriculture / plant / verb

rebel (person)
rank-and-file rebels
   she has secured her party’s nomination after negotiations
   with ~
world’s oldest rebel
   he calls himself the ~ (Harry Leslie Smith)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: military / person
   resistance, opposition & defeat: military / person

rebel (adjective)
Rebel Royal
   Princess Margaret: ~
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: military
   resistance, opposition & defeat: military

rebellion (noun)
seeds of rebellion
   enforced potty sitting can sow the ~ (toddlers)
courting rebellion by pushing ahead
   he is ~ with his plan (political party)
conflict: military
   resistance, opposition & defeat: military

rebirth
rebirth of (mountain) culture
   the ~
dead and rebirth
   the primordial pageant of ~ of light (solar eclipse)

amelioration & renewal: birth

reboot (verb)
reboot the series
   he is helping ~ (new Twilight Zone)

starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb

reborn
reborn career
   a ~ as an advertising icon (Jeff Hakman)

amelioration & renewal: birth

rebound (verb)
rebounded in numbers
   it’s possible the sharks have ~
ability to rebound
   resilience is the ~
rates never fully rebounded
   vaccination ~ (autism fears)
skin can rebound
   ~ and look younger (anti-aging creams)

resiliency: ball / verb
increase & decrease: ball / verb

rebound (on the rebound)
on the rebound
   the economy is finally ~
   the sick seal appears to be ~
resiliency: ball
amelioration & renewal: ball

rebound (rebound headache, etc.)
rebound headache
   it sounds like you’re experiencing ~s
   drugs can cause ~s
rebound hypertension
   abrupt discontinuation may cause ~ (drug)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ball

rebuild (verb)
rebuild their lives
   they are trying to ~

amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb

recant (verb)
recanted
   one of his earliest supporters ~

allegiance, support & betrayal: religion / verb

recast (verb)
recast the (university’s) image
it is part of a longstanding plan to ~
recast (modern) womanhood
she helped ~ (Helen Gurley Brown / *Cosmo*)

**characterization: manufacturing / verb**
creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb

**recipe**
recipe for conflict
in the brutal world of Afghan politics, this was a ~
recipe for controversy
combining sex and religion is a ~ (the arts)
recipe for disaster
this is a ~ (using pig organs for human transplants)
recipe for success
working together is a ~ (sports)
recipe for a breakdown
I can’t let it tear me apart because it’s just a ~ (anxiety)

**script: food & drink**

**recoil (verb)**
recoiled from his comments
fellow Republicans ~

**attraction & repulsion: tools & technology / verb**

**recycle (verb)**
recycle parts
we hope to ~ of the program

**amelioration & renewal: manufacturing / verb**

**red (Red Sea, etc.)**
Red Sea
Jeddah, the bride of the ~
Red Volta
the ~ is a tributary of the Volta River

**proper name: color**

**red alert (on red alert)**
on red alert
all organizations employing Westerners are ~ (terror)

**readiness & preparedness: color**

**red carpet (treatment)**
red carpet for investors
lay out the ~
lay out the red carpet for investors
they ~
rolled out the red carpet for Karzai
the White House ~

**welcome: carpets & rugs / royalty**

**red flag**

**red flags**
it raised some ~ to me (ethical question)
the company’s disclosure raises a ~ (fraud)

**red flags of arson**
there are many ~ (arson investigation)

**intelligence red flags**
a range of ~ signaling terrorist activity (Kenya)

**warning signs or red flags**
there were no ~ (mass shooter)

**red flags may signal**
the following 10 ~ an early problem (children)

**raised red flags**
I ~ at the time the decision was made
♦ “Not only were there red flags, they were flapping in the wind.” (A psychiatrist, commenting on the suicide of a university student.)

**warning: flags & banners / sign, signal, symbol**

**red (politics)**
red state
is Iowa at this point a ~ or a blue state
♦ “Is Iowa at this point a red state or a blue state?” “Iowa is still a purple state.” (US politics, as talked about on NPR.)
♦ “Red, R, Reagan, that’s why we chose red.” (A network broadcaster during the 1984 presidential election, explaining why states that had gone for Reagan were colored red on a national map. Democratic states were colored blue.)

**identity & nature: color**

**redoubt (noun)**
redoubt of independent Russian mass media
the radio station is the last ~
redoubt of (all-male Protestant) privilege
Princeton University was a ~
redoubt for the townies and old-timers
the hotel and its bar is the last major ~
redoubt for carousing
it was a ~ (Sarajevo bar during war)
redoubt in hay loft
the barn cat watched me from its ~

**last redoubt**
North Korea is the ~ Stalinist isolation
gritty, blue-collar redoubt
Williamsburg used to be a ~ (Brooklyn)

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

**red tape**
red tape
rescue efforts got bogged down by ~ (earthquake)
bureaucratic red tape
the ~ required to…

incompetence and red tape
the ~ is amazing (Italian government)

ran into red tape
the inmate’s transfer ~
cut through (all) the red tape
he ~ to get it done
got bogged down by red tape
rescue efforts ~ (Kobe earthquake)

obstacles & impedance: government
action, inaction & delay: government

reel (verb)

reeling from accusations
Wall Street is ~ that it is a rigged casino
reeling from her diagnosis
she is ~ (HIV)
reeling from the effects
the town is ~ of the hurricane
reeling from 3 hurricanes
Cuba is still ~ in a year last year
reeling from a (citizens’) revolt
the city council is ~ over officials’ pay
reeling from a (massive) scandal
Massachusetts is ~ in its state’s crime lab
reeling from a series
the industry is ~ of scandals
reeling from the shock
the staff is still ~ of the shootings
economy is reeling
the ~, and politicians are making it worse

equilibrium & stability: verb / walking, running & jumping
disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb / walking, running & jumping

reel in (verb)

reel him in
maybe there’s a way we can ~ (investigation)
pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb

reflex (noun)

standard reflex
when confronted, his ~ is to try and gaslight you
control & lack of control: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

refuge

refuge from bullying
nowadays there is no ~ (teens and cyber-bullying)
seek refuge

many ~ in delusion, denial and fantasy (Mideast)

protection & lack of protection: place

rehearsal

rehearsal
~s build confidence (military)
~s improve performance (military)
~s reveal weaknesses or problems (military)

rehearsal of all (critically timed) events
a ~ should be done (ARSOA)

rehearsal for invasion
North Korea calls the maneuvers a ~

rehearsals or reconnaissance
terrorists undertake ~
dress rehearsal
if a full-scale ~ is impossible (military)

mission rehearsals
this plan, along with ~… (military)

plans, SOPS, standards, and rehearsals
integrate measures into ~ (fratricide)

planning, rehearsal, and execution
during mission ~ (military)

reconnaissance and (some) rehearsal
no doubt it required some ~ (attack on Red Cross)
conduct rehearsals
~ on terrain that resembles the actual ground (military)

readiness & preparedness: theater

rehearse (verb)

rehearse for combat
the maneuvers are a chance for soldiers to ~ (Kuwait)

rehearse on terrain and under conditions
if possible, ~ like those at the operation site (military)

rehearsed your answers
when you have your script and have ~ (interview)

rehearse procedures
~ for evacuation requests (casualties / military)

rehearse the signals
~ to be used on the patrol (military)

rehearsees (critical) tasks
the platoon ~
tasks to rehearse
some important ~ include assaulting a bunker

failure to rehearse
short planning time, ~, and leader fatigue… (Military)

plan, rehearse, and execute
~ the operation (military)

readiness & preparedness: theater / verb
**reign (verb)**

uncertainty reigns

even with computer models as a guide, ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: royalty / verb

**reign (noun)**

reign

his ~ as the heavyweight champion lasted only...

his ~ as a terrorist mastermind (Palestinian)

reign as the (heavyweight) champion

his ~ lasted only seven months

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty

**reigning**

reigning academics

he battled against the stale works of the ~

reigning champion

as ~, Armstrong… (Tour de France)

reigning champs

we’re the ~ (basketball)

reigning wisdom

this has become the ~ of the nineties

former and reigning (m)

~ heavyweights (boxing)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty

**re-ignite (verb)**

re-ignite (economic) growth

I’ll ~ (commercial for a politician)

initiation: fire / verb

**reign of terror / fear, etc.**

reign of fear

Iraq’s Shiites describe a ~ (Saddam)

reign of terror

a full-scale invasion to end the ~ (Haiti)

stoning is used to extend the ~ (Iran)

reign of terror against (ethnic) minorities

carrying out a ~ (Burma)

reign of terror in Uganda

Idi Amin’s ~

reign of terror by (indigenous) Dayaks

a savage ~ (Indonesia)

Idi Amin’s reign of terror

~ in Uganda

savage reign of terror

a ~ by indigenous Dayaks (Indonesia)

imposed a reign of terror

foreign militants have ~ in South Waziristan

oppression: allusion / history / royalty / violence

**rein (rein in)**

rein in (Medicare) costs

he wants to ~ (politics)

rein in (tribal and personal) rivalries

~ (Afghanistan)

rein in the rocket fire

Hamas has been trying to ~

rein in (government) spending

we need to ~

control & lack of control: animal / horse / verb

**rein (reins of power, etc.)**

reins of Holland

he ran PSV Eindhoven before taking the ~ (coach)

reins of power

he has successfully gathered all the ~ into his hands (crown prince)

reins to the union

he holds the ~

organizing reins

Rose will turn over the ~ to Sunny Ross

hold on the reins

he now has a much stronger ~ (government)

holds the reins to the union

he ~

turn over the (organizing) reins to Ross

he will ~

handed the reins

he has been ~ (new coach for team)

seize the reins

he will probably ~ (football player for a position)

control & lack of constraint: animal / horse

**rein (free rein)**

free rein

he was given ~ to loft his jumper (basketball)

the panel has a ~ to look at other areas of his research

have a free rein

weapons inspectors must ~ (in Iraq)

constraint & lack of constraint: animal / horse

**reined in**

reigned in

the violence of his previous films has been ~

violence has been reined in

the ~ (in a filmmaker's latest film)
control & lack of control: animal / horse

reinvigorate (verb)

reinvigorated the agency

she has ~

reinvigorates support

Nike’s ad ~ in Kaepernick’s corner

amelioration & renewal: death & life / health & medicine /

verb

rekindle (verb)

rekindles memories

it ~ of the bad old days of Suharto

rekindle our relationship

I’m not looking to ~

rekindling their romance

Lindsay and Samantha may be ~ (celebrities)

rekindle stereotypes

he worries the case might ~ of Mississippi

rekindle (these) stereotypes

CBS comes along to ~ (show on hillbillies)

initiation: fire / verb

starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb

relative (relationship)

relative

anorexia nervosa, or its ~, bulimia nervosa

relative of the giraffe

the okapi, a ~

close relative

chronic traumatic encephalopathy, a ~ of Alzheimer’s

relationship: family

relic

relic of a (different) era

this system is a ~ (governance)

relic of the past

privacy has become a ~ (Internet, etc.)

his confrontation approach was rejected as a ~ (coach)

relic of an earlier time

the club is a ~ (a social club)

relic of households past

the iron is a ~

relic of the Cold War

NATO is not a useless ~

dated relic

some think the musical is a ~ (The King and I)

obsolete relic

the book-based world will be an ~ (Internet)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: religion

relief (in bold relief)

in bold relief

the Battle of the Bulge revealed those intelligence failures ~

attention, scrutiny & promotion: height

religion (enthusiasm)

religion to many

barbecuing is a ~ …

morphed into a religion

for many Americans, work has ~

enthusiasm: religion

remain (verb)

remain

but many questions remain (terrorism)

remaining coy

most potential candidates are ~ for now (presidency)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb

survival, persistence & endurance: movement / verb

remedy (verb)

remedy the problems

we must ~ of the past

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / verb

remedy (noun)

remedy for stress

a sense of control is the best ~ (living with terrorism)

remedies for violations

administrative ~ of the statute (Title IX)

remedy for the cabin fever

a ~ that plagues Vermont all winter

administrative remedy

~s for violations of the statute (Title IX)

best remedy

a good mousing cat is the ~ (mice in stable)

a sense of control is the ~ for stress (terrorism)

legal remedy

the injustice cried out for a ~

in some countries marriage is a ~ for statutory rape

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine

renaissance

renaissance era

its release ushered in Disney’s ~ (Little Mermaid, 1989)

career renaissance

she is enjoying a ~ (an actor)
something of a renaissance
documentary has undergone ~ in the last ten years

growth & development: birth / history
amelioration & renewal: birth / history
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: birth / history

repair (verb)
repair the economy
we need to ~ at home
repaired their relationship
she and Tom have ~
amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb

repair (noun)
in need of repair
t heir marriage is ~
amelioration & renewal: mechanism

repay (verb)
repaid me with petty insults
he ~ for having rejected him (#MeToo)
repay the debt of gratitude
we can never ~ owed to our nation’s veterans

obligation: money / verb

repercussion (noun)
shocking repercussions
her reaction had some ~
crime and its repercussions
this gruesome ~

feeling, emotion & effect: sound
effect: sound

repertoire (noun)
repertoire of your teaching kit
jokes may contribute to the ~ (education)

amount / help & assistance / performance: theater
group, set & collection: theater

report card
Report Card for America's Infrastructure
the 2005 "~" (American Society of Civil Engineers)
nation’s report card
the national assessment is often called " ~"

judgment: school

reprieve (noun)
reprieve from (intense) colds
with only 20 weeks of ~ every year… (Siberia)

fate, fortune & chance: justice
punishment & recrimination: justice

rescue (verb)
rescue the program from mediocrity
he promised to ~ (a new coach)

survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb

reservoir (amount)
reservoir of (submerged) hatred
the militants can tap into the ~ towards the West
reservoirs of rage
the loneliness of children and their often unrecognized ~
reservoir of good feeling
polls show a surprising ~ toward Obama

amount: dam / river / water

reservoir (source)
viral reservoir
bats are among the most dangerous ~ on earth

source: dam / river / water

reset (noun)
reset
he wants an overall ~ (policy towards Afghanistan)

starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism

reset (verb)
reset relations
Obama promised to ~ with Russia

fix or reset
the law’s efforts to ~ struggling schools (No Child Left Behind)

starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / verb

reshape (verb)
reshape how
the debate could ~ Americans understand foreign aid
reshaped Hollywood
the Jaws producer who ~ (Richard Zanuck)
reshaping (Indian) society
westernization is ~

reshaped the (ethnic) landscape
the brutal violence has ~

creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb

resonate (verb)
resonate with students
his speech will ~ (politics)
resonated loud and long
accounts of the 1963 Everest epic ~

feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb
rest (put something to rest)
put this matter to rest
we must ~
starting, going, continuing & ending: sleep / verb
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: sleep / verb
restlessness
musical restlessness
that ~ has made her a lightning rod (country music)
activity: sleep
resurrect (verb)
resurrect a career
he was desperately trying to ~ that… (a boxer)
resurrected a killer
scientists have ~ (reconstructed 1918 flu virus)
resurrect many of the old criticisms
a German defeat will ~ (soccer)
amelioration & renewal: death & life / religion / verb
resurrection (noun)
resurrection of the (1918) flu
the story of the ~ began in 1995…
retrieval, resurrection, and revival
his ~ (Thoreau / US literary canon)
amelioration & renewal: death & life / religion
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / religion
resuscitate (verb)
resuscitate this (all but abandoned) city
how can we ~ (Detroit)
resuscitate the middle class
if only we could ~
amelioration & renewal: death & life / health & medicine / verb
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb
retch (verb)
retch
if education jargon causes you to ~
make me want to retch
some of his comments ~ (politics)
acceptance & rejection: bodily process / verb
hyperbole: bodily process / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / verb
retire (verb)
retire the term
it’s time to ~ (LGBTZ+)
dismissal, removal & resignation: verb / work & duty
retort (speech)
angry retort
the allegations have brought an ~
♦ A retort is a chamber or vessel relating to heat.
speech: tools & technology
retreat (withdraw)
retreated into himself
he ~ (high-altitude bivouac on Gasherbrum IV)
retreated into a fantasy world
she ~ (9-year-old, father jailed)
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / military
feeling, emotion & effect: direction / military
retreat (reverse)
retreated from that stand
he has since ~, saying… (politician)
retreated on several points
still, the state has ~ (prisoners’ demands)
retreating on his policy
he is ~ to... (president)
retreated on that
but the EPA ~ (reverses a ban)
reversal: direction / military / verb
return (verb)
return to normal
coral can recover if conditions ~ (bleaching)
returned to normal
his heart and liver function had ~ (CO poisoning)
returned in force
it was still horribly cold and the wind ~ (climbing)
conditions return
coral can recover if ~ to normal (bleaching)
function had returned
his heart and liver ~ to normal (CO poisoning)
wind returned
it was still horribly cold and the ~ in force (climbing)
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: movement / verb
return (animals, etc.)
return of this (national) symbol
the dramatic ~ (bald eagle)
return of the wolf
the west has seen the ~ (US)
dramatic return
the ~ of this national symbol (the bald eagle)
return (point of no return)

point of no return
many see annexation as a ~ in terms of a peace deal

return (noun)

return of function
full ~ is common (fracture)
return of cold temperatures
the ~ led to an ice age
return to function
complete ~ is the norm (fracture)
return to the fundamentals
Salafis advocate a strict ~
return to the "old days" what he really wants is a ~ (Pakistani Christian)
return to traditional foods
the tepary bean symbolizes a ~ (Tohono O'odham)
point of no return I reached the ~
symbolizes a return
the tepary bean ~ to traditional foods (Tohono O'odham)

reveal (verb)

reveal a (genetic) bottleneck
blood samples ~ (too few Amur tigers left)
reveal some dirt
critics hoped the report would ~ on the President (politics)
revealed the extent
dawn ~ of devastation
revealed a (deep) fissure
the resignations ~ among Afghan leaders
reveals (many) hidden gems
the road ~ (N7 in France)
reveal gulf
antiwar marches ~ between leaders and people
reveal how
his novels ~ things really got done (spycraft)
reveal the hypocrisy
he listed the façade of respectability to ~
reveal a (disturbing) pattern
the data ~ to a trained eye
concealment & lack of concealment: verb

reveal (big reveal, etc.)

big reveal
when will she make the ~
concealment & lack of concealment: verb to noun

rev up (verb)

revved up the debate
the information ~ over the war

revved (revved up)

revved up
the crowd is ~

feeling, emotion & effect: engine

reverberate (verb)

reverberates beyond our own shores
the political dialogue in the US ~ (New Zealand massacre)
reverberate through admission offices
the case is sure to ~ (forged transcripts)
feeling, emotion & effect: sound / verb
transmission: sound / verb

reverberation (noun)

reverberations across the globe
the attacks in Christchurch have had ~ (mass shooting)
political reverberations
the ~ continued to be felt (assassination)
reverberations haven't died away
that was 150 years ago, yet the ~ (Civil War)
feeling, emotion & effect: sound
transmission: sound
effect: sound

review (noun)

rave reviews
his new pitch has drawn ~ (a pitcher)
mixed reviews
but his performance got ~ (a lawyer)
judgment: theater

revive (verb)

revive (computer) systems
Baltimore struggles to ~ paralyzed by hackers
revive hiring
government intervention can ~
survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb
amelioration & renewal: death & life / verb
revolt (verb)

revolted against the pay shareholders have ~ awarded to...
revolted against her attempts many supporters of her party have ~ at austerity
resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb

revolution (noun)

revolution in (data) storage astronomy faces a ~
communications revolution the ~ that is the Web
information revolution the impact of the ~
Internet revolution helped propel the ~
digital music revolution his startup, MP3.com, helped ignite the ~
shortboard revolution his board designs helped kick off the ~ (surfing)
lesbian revolution her hit song Wenn die beste Freundin unleashed a ~
sexual revolution living in a country that went through the ~ (US)
aftermath of the (sexual) revolution in the ~
impact of the (information) revolution the ~
path of revolution another bored child of privilege who chose the ~
revolution is brewing a ~ (against bilingual education)
launched a revolution he ~ (astronomer looking at X-ray emitters)
kick off the (shortboard) revolution his board designs helped ~ (surfing)

Importance & significance: history growth & development: history disruption: history

revolutionize (verb)

revolutionized the (retail drug) business Mr. Walgreen ~ in the 1950s
revolutionized (medical) care the CAT scanner ~ throughout the world
revolutionized women’s lives the sewing machine ~ (1870s)
revolutionized forensic anthropology the body farm ~ (Knoxville, TN)
Importance & significance: history / verb growth & development: history / verb disruption: history / verb

revolve (revolve around something)

revolved around heroism for many tribes, life ~
revolved around the sea his life ~ (a surfer)
revolved around sports his childhood ~
revolved around a (church) youth group her social life ~
revolve around personalities and geography allegiances ~ (Tuvalu politics)

bases: astronomy / movement / verb attraction & repulsion: astronomy / verb

revolving door

revolving door her romantic life is a ~
revolving door of the Trump administration through the ~ goes another high-level departure
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: doors & thresholds / movement

reward (verb)

reward you with its beauty whatever the season, the galax will ~ (plant)
reward the winners with certificates we ~ of achievement (class project)
rewards loyalty over excellence he ~ (president)
reward (or punish) students for their behavior grades should not ~
rewards (creative) approaches the competition ~ to… (research)
rewards the (personal) loyalty
    the bureaucracy ~ of those at the bottom
reward or punish
    grades should not ~ students for their behavior

**cost & benefit: money / verb**

**reward (noun)**

reward
    I think that the risk is part of the ~ (a climber)
rewards of fish watching
    introduce recreational divers to the ~
rewards like money, sex and drugs
    the human brain is acutely attuned to ~
rewards for (good) work
    high grades are given as ~ (school)
rewards or other kinds of motivation
    recognize achievement with ~ (job)
rewards and dangers
    developing the Arctic carries ~ for those in the area
cash reward
    the new software is delivering ~s
unpredictable rewards
    ~ produce much larger signals in the brain
lion's share of the rewards
    they reap the ~
incentives and rewards
    improve class climate through ~ (teachers)
perils and rewards
    the ~ of the backcountry (Mt. Rainier)
rewards (certainly) justified the effort
    the ~ (hiking)
carries rewards
    developing the Arctic ~ and dangers
delivering (cash) rewards
    the new software is ~
attuned to rewards
    the human brain is acutely ~ like money, sex and drugs

**cost & benefit: money**

**rewarding**

rewarding
    the work is very hard but very ~ (nursing assistant)
rewarding experience
    it's the most ~ I've ever had (adoption)
rewarding thing
    it's the most ~ I've ever done (adoption)
rewarding spiritually

it's very ~ (paragliding / Hawaii)
fun and rewarding
    wilderness and travel medicine can be ~

**cost & benefit: money**

**ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)**

Ribbon Creek
    we paddled up ~ (Alberta, Canada)
Ribbon Lake
    ~ is in Alberta, Canada
Ribbon Reef
    we scuba-dive on ~ (Queensland, Australia)

**proper name / shape: cloth**

**rich (rich land, etc.)**

rich
    the land here is particularly ~

**worth & lack of worth: money**

**rich (plentiful)**

rich in (natural) beauty
    the Aisén area of Patagonia is ~ (Chile)
rich in minerals
    Guinea, a former French colony that is ~
rich in uranium
    the north of Niger is ~
rich in protein, iron and calcium
    teff, an easily absorbed millet ~ (Ethiopia)
feature-rich
    it is not nearly as ~ or versatile (a camera)
fiber-rich (m)
    to avoid hemorrhoids, fill up on ~ foods
fossil-rich (m)
    at the ~ site in China…
oxxygen-rich (m)
    fish need ~ water to survive (pollution)
resource-rich (m)
    China and India court ~ counties like Nigeria
target-rich (m)
    he flew into a ~ environment (combat)
wildlife-rich (m)
    the ~ province of Mpumalanga

**amount: money**

**rich (superlative)**

rich (maritime) heritage
    the New York and New Jersey area has a ~
rich (Jewish) legacy
there is a ~ associated with boxing

rich (basketball) tradition
    Philadelphia has a ~

rich, sophisticated and varied
    Islamic civilization—~

superlative: money

ricochet (verb)

ricochet
    this could ~

reversal: weapon / verb

riddled

riddled with lookouts
    the gang-infested neighborhood is ~

affliction: animal / insect

ride (rough ride, etc.)

ride of my life
    this has been the greatest ~ (graduating basketball star)

bumpy ride
    consumers are in for a ~ this year (customer service)

fantastic ride
    we have had a ~ (soccer coach / his team loses in semifinal)

greatest ride
    this has been the ~ of my life (graduating sports star)

rough ride
    we're in for a ~ (new troops in Iraq)

wild ride
    it's going to be a ~ (future events)
        his tweets and interviews make for a ~ (President Trump)

take you along for the ride
    a start-up that's ready to ~ (job)

ride out (verb)

ride this thing out
    we'll just have to ~ (a hurricane)

rode out the hurricane at home
    they ~

ride out his affliction
    he chose to ~ (instead of going to the hospital)

rode out the storm
    the punch hurt him, but he ~ (boxing)

survival, persistence & endurance: boat / riding / verb

rift (division)

rift
    a ~ occurred between the radicals (Seattle mosque)

rift between Hamas and Fatah
    hopes to end the deepening ~

rifts between blacks and whites
    already existing ~ in the South

rifts between the Defense Secretary and the military
    ~ (US)

rifts (between blacks and whites) in the South
    already existing ~

rifts in the city
    trying to heal the racial ~ (LA)

rift among Indians
    the move created a ~ here (Yakama Nation)

rifts over (America's) strategy
    orchestrated leaks from the White House have exposed ~

deepening rift
    hopes to end the ~ between Hamas and Fatah

centuries-old rift
    a ~ has come to the surface (Egyptians in the US)

races rift
    trying to heal the ~ in the city (Los Angeles)

new school / old school rift
    a classic ~ (newer kayaking moves)

exposed rifts
    leaks have ~ over America's strategy

healed the rift
    the years have not ~ between Shipa and her family

division & connection: ground, terrain & land

right (right a wrong, etc.)

right our (fiscal) ship
    we must ~ (budget)

right this wrong
    we must ~
right a (perceived) wrong
seeking to ~ with a firearm

seeking to right
~ a perceived wrong with a firearm

amelioration & renewal: equilibrium & stability / orientation
/ verb

green-right (right-hand man, etc.)

green-hand man
he was Mubarak's ~ for decades

importance & significance: hand / position

green (constraint)
green (religious) beliefs
he has ~
green doctrine
the group does not have a ~
green hierarchy
teachers should avoid establishing a ~ of groups
green routine
inside, life followed a ~ (a Chinese factory)
green rules
he has relaxed some ~ (coach)
green (production) schedule
workers must deal with ~s
green versus a flexible (m)
commanders must weigh the benefits of a ~ plan
green and omnipotent
its caste dynamics were ~
green and puritanical (m)
Wahhabism, the ~ strain of Islam (Saudi Arabia)

ideologically rigid
our political leaders are too ~

less rigid (m)
the Berbers practice a ~ form of Islam today

constraint & lack of constraint: materials & substances
ability & lack of ability: materials & substances

green (character)
green
she was not ~, and her views evolved (Ann Landers)
we are not being so ~ as saying that is the only option
don't be ~, stay aware of your environment (military)
green in his beliefs
his parents claim he is not ~ (religion)
green or extremist
his parents say he is not ~ in his beliefs

character & personality: materials & substances
ability & lack of ability: materials & substances

ring (ring false, etc.)
rang false
her story ~
rang hollow
his apology ~ (insincere)
rings true
his story ~

perception, perspective & point of view: sound / verb

ring (ring of truth, etc.)
ring of truth
his words had the ~ (murder trial)
it doesn't have the ~ (an FBI report)

magical ring
those three letters have a ~ (BBC); 'Vichysoise' still has a ~ to it (for a chef)
successful ring
it had a ~ (a boxer's boxing name for himself)

perception, perspective & point of view: sound

ringed (circled)
ringed by sand flats
Rabbit Key, a small mangrove hummock ~s (Florida)
ringed by barbed wire
the area is ~ (military post)
ringed by mountains of garbage
neighborhoods here are ~ (Luanda)

ringed seal
the ~ is the chief prey of the polar bear (Arctic)

configuration: shape

ring in (the New Year, etc.)
ring in the Year of the Pig
next month, China will ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: bell / verb
coming, arriving, staying , leaving & returning: bell / verb

ringmaster (person)
ringmaster of the (daily) news briefings
he was the ~ (government public-affairs news briefer)
ringmaster of loyalty investigations
he was the ~ (Joe McCarthy)

role of the ringmaster
he is playing the ~ (a crusader and media personality)
turned himself from spectator to ringmaster
he artfully ~ and took control (a mayor)

directing: circus / person
performance: person
person: circus
ring out (voice)

voice rang out
her ~ with an accusation

speech: sound / verb

ring out (a shot rang out, etc.)

shot rang out
suddenly, a ~ and a bullet fired from the house struck...

sound: bell / verb

ripe (adjective)

ripe
the time is ~ to sit down with the Chinese
ripe for a (large) fire
conditions are ~ (dead trees)
ripe for cultivation
the colonists found meadows ~
ripe for rebellion
the city is ~ (Basra)
made conditions ripe
the fronts and temperatures ~ for tornadoes
timeliness & lack of timeliness: fruits & vegetables
growth & development: fruits & vegetables / plant

ripple (verb)

ripple out
all sorts of abuses ~ (from dogfighting)
rippled westward
the tradition may have ~ with the Scythians (art)
rippled through the system
United's flaws ~ (plane transportation)
rippled through every industry
the effects of the movement have ~ (me too)

feeling, emotion & effect: water / verb
effect: water

ripple (noun)

political ripple
the existence of child workers has made barely a ~ here
barely a ripple
the existence of child workers has made ~
made (barely) a ripple
the existence of child workers has ~ here
sending ripples through colleges
the changes are ~
ripple on the economy
that move, in turn, has had a ~
ripples of Columbine

what were the ~
ripples of the shutdown
travelers everywhere felt the ~ (airport)
ripple in the atmosphere
the smallest changes can have a ~ (tornadoes)
ripples from the drownings
the ~ have affected river access (kayaking)
ripples thousands of miles away
delays in one area can have ~ (planes)
headaches and ripple effects
Kazakhstan's policies have caused ~ in all directions
ripple effects have affected
the ~ river access (kayaking fatalities)
ripples could extend
the ~ beyond the industry (tainted beef)
have ripple effects
weather delays ~ (air transportation)
adds to the ripple effect
every new infection ~ (AIDS epidemic)
feeling, emotion & effect: water
effect: water

rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)

rising to the challenge
we are ~
rise to the occasion
can they ~
rose to the occasion
he ~ like freshly baked dough

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: direction / height / verb

rise (rise above something)

rose above party politics
he was a towering figure who ~ (McCain)

behavior: direction / height / verb

rise (resistance)

rose in revolt
the people ~
rise up
no one knows if the people will ~
people who ~ often get killed (rebellion)

resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb

rise (on the rise)

on the rise
feed prices are ~ (drought effect on herds of animals)
on the rise in Tajikistan
Islam is ~
growth & development: direction
increase & decrease: direction
rise (rise of agriculture, etc.)

rise of the Roman Empire
with the decline of Greece and the ~
rise of Buddhism
with the ~ the study of anatomy was prohibited
rise of Christianity and Islam
the practice predates the ~ (FGM)
rise of China
if you are worried about the ~
rise of agriculture
his hypothesis suggests that the ~ led to~
rise of feminism
this period witnessed the ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
growth & development: direction
rise (achievement)
meteoric rise
she had a ~ and a heartbreaking fall (Whitney Houston)
achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height
rise (achieve)
rise in the company
he was anxious to ~ (workplace sociopath)
achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height / verb
rise (rising)
rising star
she is a ~ (a singer)
achievement, recognition & praise: direction / height
rite (rite of passage)
rite of passage
it's kind of a ~
wild rite of passage
Las Vegas becomes a ~ for new 21-year-olds (booze)
growth & development: journeys & trips / religion
course: journeys & trips
ritual
ritual of (village) life
in a ~
rituals and routines
many people have ~ before bedtime (nursing)
concert ritual
~s include "body surfing"
bedtime ritual
follow a nightly ~ (bath, pajamas, story, bed) (kids)
springtime ritual
drinking sap from the maple tree is a ~ (S. Korea)
pre-spring-break ritual
what became a ~ (females diet / eating disorders)
fraternity drinking ritual
his son had taken part in a ~ (died)
personal finance ritual
recording checks is a ~
hazing ritual
it was a ~ (training)
Yale has strict policies barring ~s (fraternities)
~s pushed too far (high school)
mating ritual
cicadas engage in a frenetic ~
ancient ritual
the ~ of the blood feud still holds sway (Albania)
bizarre rituals
elaborate and sometimes ~ (OCD)
nightly (bedtime) ritual
follow a ~ (bath, books, and bed) (toddlers)
superstitious ritual
~s such as wearing the same shirt (sports)
wacky (bedtime) ritual
you learn who's got ~s (sharing a room)
yearly ritual
the start of the ~ (Cancun spring break)
bedtime ritual
follow a nightly ~ (bath, pajamas, story, bed) (kids)
you learn who's got wacky ~s (sharing a room)
follow a (nightly bedtime) ritual
~ (bath, books, and bed) (toddlers)
stop the ritual
colleges have tried various tactics to ~ (alcohol)
engage in a (frenetic) mating ritual
cicadas ~
taken part in a (fraternity drinking) ritual
his son had ~ (died)
behavior: religion
river (resemblance)
River of Grass
the ~ that is the Everglades (Florida)
the Florida Everglades, the so-called ~
the subtle, sodden grandeur of the so-called ~
river of (high-altitude) air
the jet stream, a speeding ~, veered far south
river of ice
the glacier is broad and grand, like the ~ it is
river of lava
sending out plumes of ash and three ~s (volcano)
the volcano sent 200-foot-wide ~ through the town
river of wind
that ~, called the jet stream
atmospheric river
the Pineapple Express is an ~
you can see the ~ on the satellite here (weather report)

resemblance: river

river (amount and effect)
river of hogs
this annual migration, this “great ~” (Buncombe Turnpike)
iron river
the ~ refers to the flow of guns from the US into Mexico
amount & effect: river / water
movement: river / water

river (Niger River, etc.)
Niger River
Mungo Park explored the ~
proper name: river
riveted
riveted in the (public) imagination
Brandi Chastain is forever ~

attachment: tools & technology
road (turn in the road, etc.)
turn in a (troubled) road
it was one more ~ (personal problems)
direction: journeys & trips
development: journeys & trips
road (road from / to something)
road to recovery
she is well on the ~
the economy is on the bumpy ~
road to riches
other companies saw a different ~ (online education)
road to ruin
a doctor's ~ (addiction)
road to the truth
the ~ is still a very long one (slave laborers in Siberia)
road to sin and evil
it blocks the ~ (women and non-mahram males)
road to stardom

the ~ hasn't been a superhighway for her (film actor)
road to the White House
his ~ was paved with discretion and loyalty
road to a fit, fabulous body
the ~ isn't short
road from convert to jihadist
the ~ can be remarkably short (terrorists)
road from research to (finished) product
the ~ is long and costly (drugs)
road (to get) from where we are now to impeachment
there's a long ~

first step on that road
this is a pretty aggressive ~ (to impeachment)
course: journeys & trips
progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips
survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips
road (along / on the road)
along the (long) road of parenting
it'll help you ~ (advice about toddlers)
on the road to fame
they were young, just starting ~
on the road to peace
we’re still ~ (Palestinian road map)
the negotiations are an important stepping stone ~ (Sudan)
on the bumpy road to recovery
the economy is ~ to recovery
well on the road
she is ~ to recovery
bumps along the road
there have been a few ~

start on the road to e-riches
all eager to ~ (Internet prospectors)

† “We’re still on the road to peace, it’s just going to be a bumpy road, and
I’m not going to get off the road until we reach the vision.” (President
Bush on Palestinian road map, after 4th suicide bombing.)
course: journeys & trips
road (road ahead, etc.)
on the road ahead
nobody knows what is ~
long road ahead
there is still a very ~ for Ms Warren (running for presidency)
future: journeys & trips / direction
road (down the road, etc.)
down the road
but that's ~, right now, people are still…
this will lead to problems ~
it could be indictable ~ (in the future)
the company hopes to make money ~ (in the future)
easier down the road
it'll make your job ~
few years down the road
we don't want to find out a ~ that… (investigator)
further down the road
they hope for improvement in relations ~ (diplomats)

future: journeys & trips / direction
road (down a road before)
down this road before
we have been ~
I can tell you've been ~
down that road before
I've been ~ (exploited by girlfriend)
past & present: journeys & trips
experience: journeys & trips
road (go down that road, etc.)
go down that road
let's not ~
eagerness & reluctance: journeys & trips / movement
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: journeys & trips / movement
road (end of the road)
the end of the road
a defeat does not necessarily mean ~ for Nigeria
hit the end of the road
he has ~ (arrested for murder)
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips
road (long road)
long road
the ~ we have traveled in the U.S. (desegregation)
it’s a ~ when you face the world alone (Mariah)
it’s been a ~, and sometimes it has been fun (old rocker)
long road of parenting
it'll help you along the ~ (learn to pick your battles)
long road to an uncertain result
investigators face a ~
long road ahead
there is still a very ~ for Ms Warren (running for presidency)
face a long road
investigators ~ to an uncertain result
traveled a long road
we have ~ (desegregation)
help you along the long road
I'll ~ of parenting (learn to pick your battles)
course: journeys & trips
difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips
road (tough / easy road, etc.)
bumpy road
the economy is on the ~ to recovery
difficult road
they team slogged a ~ to qualify for the tournament
hard road
it's been a ~ (a victim of abuse)
rough road
President Obama faces a ~ (politics)
safe road
do I take the ~, or do I venture out
tough road
it's been a ~ for everybody
troubled road
it was one more turn in a ~ (personal problems)
bumps along the road
there have been a few ~
bumps in the road
many families encounter ~ to toilet training
stumbles on the road
there have been some ~ to reform
on a road (that)...
~ is paved with leaks, supposition, speculation (enquiry)
flaws & lack of flaws: journeys & trips
difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips
road (the high road)
taken the high road
he has ~ and refused to respond to the insults
behavior: direction / height
road (fork in the road, etc.)
come to a fork in the road
the countries involved in the Middle East have ~
when things like that happen, you ~
different road
other companies saw a ~ to riches (online education)
similar road
the six countries all followed a ~ (to democracy)
going down that road
I am not ~
going down a road
you are ~ that will be your undoing
take you down the wrong road
it's a question that can ~ (job interview)

♦ Robert Frost’s classic poem “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” recounts how he came to a fork in the road and took “the one less traveled by.”
alternatives & choices: journeys & trips

road (push something down the road)

pushed down the road
some of the big decisions were ~ (government)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: journeys & trips / verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: walking, running & jumping
action, inaction & delay: journeys & trips / verb

road (the Silk Road, etc.)

Silk Road
the ~ was not one route, but a series of routes

Whale Road
early Icelanders referred to the sea as the ~

proper name: journeys & trips
route: epithet

road (road to Damascus)

road to Damascus kind of conversion
this can’t be a ~ (Al Sharpton on whites getting black electoral support)

reversal: allusion / Bible / journeys & trips / religion
consciousness & awareness: allusion / Bible / journeys & trips / religion
creation & transformation: allusion / Bible / journeys & trips / religion
allegiance, support & betrayal: allusion / Bible / journeys & trips / religion

roadblock

legislative roadblock
the union headed to Albany to set up a ~ (education)

face some roadblocks
we ~ (better relations with China)

obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips

road map

road map toward peace
a ~ in the Middle East

road map to cutting
he has a detailed ~ spending (politician)

roadmap for the Internet
the 13 root servers that provided the ~

road map for what
it’s a ~ we must do (plan to save coral reefs)

script: journeys & trips / map

roar (noun)

roar of the waterfall
he had to shout over the ~

sound: animal
resemblance: sound

roar back (verb)

roaring back
he promised to bring manufacturing ~ (politics)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: animal / sound / verb

roast (verb)

roasted the president
she ~ (White House Correspondents’ Dinner)

speech: cooking / fire / verb

rob (verb)

rob the winds of their moisture
the uplands ~ (valley in rain shadow)
robbed me of my health and vitality
he ~ (a sex abuser)

taking & removing: crime / verb

robbed

robbed of our child
we were ~ (murdered)

taking & removing: crime

robbery (noun)

highway robbery
it’s an outrage, ~ (boxer gets draw instead of win)

taking & removing: crime

robot (noun)

robot
he’s not a ~, he’s got feelings and emotions
I’m not a ~, I get tired (an athlete)

robot in (pressure-packed) situations
he’s a ~ (a coach)

robot kid
in a world of cookie-cutter ~s, he was different

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism
strength & weakness: mechanism

robust (adj)

robust
our quality-control systems are ~

robust debate
the controversy has ignited a ~ on Web sites

robust response
the threat of terrorism requires a ~

strength & weakness: health & medicine
condition & status: health & medicine
**rock (verb)**
rocked the (scientific) community
the earthshaking experiment has ~
rocked the media
the story ~
rocked the (Japanese) sport
the match-rigging scandal has ~ (sumo)
rocked Silicon Valley
the scam ~ (technology fail)
**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb**
**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**

**rock (support)**
rock of a family
Barbara Bush was the ~ dedicated to public service
**bases: ground, terrain & land / materials & substances**
**strength & weakness: ground, terrain & land / materials & substances**
epithet: ground, terrain & land

**rock (on the rocks)**
on the rocks
their relationship is ~
**failure, accident & impairment: boat / sea**
**danger / destruction: boat / sea**

**rock (turn over every rock, etc.)**
look under every rock
people then were not prepared to ~ (historical sex abuse)
turn over every rock to see
we're going to ~ if… (police investigation)
**difficulty, easiness & effort: ground, terrain & land / verb**
**searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb**
**pursuit, capture & escape: ground, terrain & land / verb**

**rock-bottom (adjective)**
rock-bottom
the prices for scuba diving are ~ (Belize)
rock-bottom price
rented at ~s
**decline: ground, terrain & land**

**rocked (disruption)**
rocked by the sex scandal
the network was ~ (CBS)
**feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb**
**disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb**

**rocket (increase)**
rocket to 1 billion
the number of passengers is expected to ~ by…
rocketing upward
demand is ~ (for a service)
levels will rocket
sediment ~ (dam removal)
**increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / rocket / verb**

**rocket (speed)**
rocketed down the slope on his back
he ~ (climbing)
rocketed to fame
she ~ in New York (an actor)
**speed: rocket / verb**

**rocket (resemblance)**
fired a rocket past the keeper
a moment later, he ~ (soccer)
**resemblance: rocket**

**rocky (adjective)**
rocky
his relationship with his superiors was ~
their season has been ~ (a women’s basketball team)
rocky (midterm Congressional) elections
the president faces ~
rocky (on-again, off-again) relationship
they've had a ~ (a couple)
rocky start
his NFL career got off to a ~
rocky tenure
he had a ~ at the State Department (resigned)
rocky year
it was a ~ for the newspaper (criticism)
**flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land**

**rogue (noun)**
rogue Chinese scientist
a ~ claims to have edited the DNA of twin girls
gone rogue
he has ~
**society: animal**
**control & lack of control: animal**
**character & personality: animal**

**roil (verb)**
roiled (Tibetan) areas
ethnic unrest has ~ of China
roiling the markets
what is ~ is the fact that… (international finance)
**feeling, emotion & effect: water / verb**
disruption: water / verb

role (act)
played the role
he ~ of a loving husband and doting father (murderer)

performance: theater

role (function or part)
sport's (starring) role
the ~ in the end of apartheid (South African rugby)
played a role
the investigation into his sexting case ~ in the 2016 US presidential election

importance & significance: theater

roll (on a roll)
on a (pretty good) roll
we're ~ now (basketball coach / win streak)
get on a roll
you ~, you get momentum… (winning streak)
started the year on a roll
the radical right ~

progress & lack of progress: ball / movement
starting, going, continuing & ending: ball / movement
flaws & lack of flaws: ball / movement

roll (verb)
start rolling
revolutions often ~ when the army refused to shoot
rolling on
the controversy keeps ~

roll (move)
roll across the mountains
some strong thunderstorms ~ (news / weather)
thunderstorms roll
some strong ~ across the mountains (news / weather)

movement: ball / verb

roll back (verb)
roll back the (health-care) reform
politicians want to ~

reversal: mechanism / verb

roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.)
roller-coaster ride
culture shock can be a ~ of emotions
roller coaster of a career
she had such a ~ (Judy Garland)

emotional roller coaster
it's frustrating, an ~
an ~, with many tears and goodbyes (deployment)
the family rode an ~ for months (daughter kidnapped)

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

roller coaster (development)
roller coaster
my life is a ~ and this is a down time
roller-coaster
this is a real ~ (attempts to rescue trapped miners)
roller-coaster ride
it's been a ~ ride for investors
roller coaster (weight) gains and losses
she has a long history of ~

legal roller coaster
the ~ over stem-cell research…

development: direction / movement / sports & games
increase & decrease: direction / movement / sports & games

roll in (verb)
rolling in
donations are ~ (after fire at cathedral)

movement: ball / verb

rolling (movement)
rolling end
the war had a rolling start and will have a ~ (Iraq)
rolling start
what commanders have called a ~ to the war (Iraq War)
the war had a ~ and will have a rolling end (Iraq War)
rolling blackouts
another day of ~ (California)

movement: ball
starting, going, continuing & ending: movement

roll out (verb)
roll out (six) new models
Chrysler will soon ~ (automobiles)
rolled out a package
the Party ~ of reforms (China / economy)
rolling out new policy
we are not ~ (politics / election)
roll the (new) settings
we are going to ~ this week (Website)

inauguration: mechanism / verb
roll over (verb)

roll over
Watford won’t ~ (FA Cup final underdogs)

resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / dog / verb
conflict: animal / dog / verb

romance (noun)

romance with the West
his ~ makes him vulnerable to detractors (leader)

enthusiasm: love, courtship & marriage

roof (a roof can cave in)

roof has caved in on the team
the ~ (losing)

failure, accident & impairment: house / roof / ruins
destruction: house / roof / ruins

roof (through the roof)

going through the roof
the price is ~

shot through the roof
prices have ~

increase & decrease: house / flying & falling / roof
extent & scope: house / flying & falling / roof

roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)

roof of the cave
the ~ collapsed

roof of his mouth
he got peanut butter on the ~

orientation: direction / house / roof

room (wiggle room)

wiggle room
negotiators had very little ~
he then used the only ~ the law allowed him

wiggle room on wages
the MTA has hinted at ~ (negotiations with union)

wiggle room for players
there’s no ~ (11-point table-tennis games)

constraint & lack of constraint: ground, terrain & land
situation: ground, terrain & land

room (space)

room to hide
thick forests and deep gorges offer ample ~ (Caucasus)

room for a dart game
a few pool tables and ~

room for wasted space
no ~ in the apartment

room for 12 coffins
a mausoleum with ~, 20 cremation niches and…

legroom
new seats allow more ~

sea room
a ship with adequate speed and ~

ample room
thick forests and deep gorges offer ~ to hide (Caucasus)

constraint & lack of constraint: space

room (opportunity)

room for advancement
his predecessor left because there was no ~

room for compromise
there is little ~

room for diplomacy
there is ~ here… (UN issue)

room for error
there’s no ~

room for improvement
there was ~ in his shooting (basketball)

room for maneuver
how much ~ do you think he has in Brussels (diplomacy)

room for an additional voice
there’s ~ (new newspaper)

room for slipups
if you don’t allow yourself ~… (dieting)

breathing room
provide ~ to consider the options
the rate increase gives the Postal Service "~"

negotiating room
how much ~ is there on the part of…

allow yourself room
if you don’t ~ for slipups… (dieting)

constraint & lack of constraint: space
situation: space

root (at the root)
at the root of his desperate act
the mystery ~

bases: plant / tree

root (root cause)

root cause
nobody is looking at the ~s…

root causes of the conflict
the accord failed to address the ~ (Darfur)

root causes of jihad
it's not easy to address the ~

root cause of these problems

the ~ …

root causes of global warming

the burning of coal, oil, and gas is the ~

root cause of Global Dimming

the burning of coal, oil, and gas is the ~

root cause of why

that might be the ~… (reasons for a disaster)

root causes or common threads

in some places, suicides seem to have ~

bases: plant / tree

analysis, interpretation & explanation: plant / tree

root (root of the problem, etc.)

roots of conflict

the ~ run deep (Sudan)

roots of militancy

the ~ lie in a feeling of intense humiliation

roots of this misery

the ~ are not hard to find (Indian reservations)

root of the problem

once you find out the ~

roots of terrorism

understand and address the ~

roots of the disorder

there is little info about the ~

bases / origin: plant / tree

root (origin)

roots in Mexico

he is proud of his ~ (son of immigrants)

roots in Virginia

time to research her family ~

roots (deep) in the Jordanian desert

he is of the Beni Hassan tribe, with ~

roots in the (local) culture

he had no ~ (Barak Obama in Hawaii)

NASCAR’s (moonshine whiskey) roots

family’s roots

time to research her ~ in Virginia

surfing’s roots

I’m stoked to be in Hawaii, back to ~

university’s (military-school) roots

the ~

military-school roots

the university’s ~

reporting roots

it marked a return to his ~ (editor reports on war)

moonshine-running roots

its ~ (NASCAR)

Azeri roots

many Iranians have ~

Catholic roots

the region has never lost its ~ (New Mexico)

Dalit roots

despite his ~, he earned a degree… (Kanshi Ram)

Italian roots

Rico himself has no ~ (mobster)

Jewish roots

he’s tried to deny his ~ (politician)

Polynesian roots

he traces the history of surfing back to its ~

Southern roots

as NASCAR grew from its ~ into a national sport

ancient roots

the science of anatomy has ~

biological roots

little info about the ~ of the disorder

humble roots

this learned man from ~ (North Carolina poet laureate)

urban roots

this competition is a tribute to the ~ of street skating

deep historical roots

it’s a dispute that has ~ (Greece and Macedonia)

proud of his roots

he is ~ in Mexico… (son of immigrants)

deny his (Jewish) roots

he’s tried to ~ (politician)

origin: plant / tree

root (take root, etc.)

deep roots

child labor retains ~ (west and central Africa)

Catholicism has very ~ in Ireland

firm roots

Christianity failed to set ~ in Japan and China

shallow roots

his success has ~

a sport with ~ in this country (tennis in China)

many residents have ~ in the city (state workers)

take root

but the colony did not ~ (Australia)

taking (commercial) root

the new generation of nanomaterials is ~
took root
cricket ~ during the colonial era of the Raj (Pakistan)
put down roots
many Canadians have ~ in Florida (home-buyers)
set (firm) roots
Christianity failed to ~ in Japan and China

growth & development: plant / tree

root (root server)

root server
organizations responsible for operating the ~s
the ~s serve as a sort of master directory for the Internet
8 or more of the world's 13 ~s must fail before...
the 13 ~s that provided the roadmap for the Internet

root server (m)
at the top of the ~ hierarchy is the "A" root server
the most complex DDOS attack ever against the ~ system

computer: plant

rooted

rooted in (violent) collisions
a sport whose popularity is ~ (NFL / concussion)
deeply rooted (m)
Ethiopia, a country with a ~ (Christian) identity
fireworks are a ~ tradition in Peru
family deer hunts in November are a ~ tradition

bases: plant / tree

root out (verb)

root out crooked cops
the force must ~
root out corruption
the UN must improve its accountability and ~
root out an enemy
the marines are trying to ~ that knows the terrain
root out militants
efforts to ~ inside Egypt
root out (wasteful) spending
we need to ~
root out terrorists
send more troops and ~ (in Iraq)

dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / tree / verb

rope (learn the ropes, etc.)

learning the ropes
she is still ~ (a waiter)
knows the ropes
she ~

experience: boat / rope

rope (at the end of one's rope)
at the (very) end of my rope with him
I think I'm ~ (kid)

feeling, emotion & effect: rope

rope (on the ropes)
on the ropes
many Hawaiian species are ~

survival, persistence & endurance: boxing / rope

Rorschach (test)

Rorschach test
this was a Rashomon moment meeting a ~ (3-group confrontation on Mall)
newest human Rorschach test
she is America's ~ (Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez)

perception, perspective & point of view: allusion / picture

Rosetta Stone

Rosetta stone for understanding
the article is a ~ Y.A.'s toxic culture (Kat Rosenfield)

comprehension & incomprehension: allusion / history

analysis, interpretation & explanation: allusion / history

rot (verb)

left to rot
the working class has been ~ (US)
corruption: food & drink / verb

corruption: food & drink / verb

rot (noun)

rot in (Pakistani) society
the ~ is more poisonous than anyone thought (violence)
rot in the system
Shevardnadze sniffed out the ~ (Georgia)

Rot at the Top
the lead opinion piece was entitled, “The ~” (politics and corruption)

rot and corruption
the moral ~ (of the Republican Party)

moral rot
the silence on the issue is an example of ~

sniffed out the rot
Shevardnadze ~ in the system (Republic of Georgia)

stop the rot
the church needed someone else at the helm to ~ (Catholics)

♦ The fish rots from the head. (A proverb about the leaders in organizations, governments, etc.)

corruption: food & drink
rotten (adjective)
rotten
your billing system is ~
rotten administrator
she's a ~ but a nice person
rotten shape
the job market is in ~
corruption: food & drink
roulette (noun)
genetic roulette
we are playing ~ with our agriculture and crops
fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games
round (boxing)
Round One
it's ~ in a prizefight, but the bell hasn't rung yet
round one
this is just ~ (in the budget battle)
development: boxing
round up (assemble)
rounded up a few things
I've ~ (Cortana internet search)
assembling: animal / verb
route (course)
roundabout route
he had come to painting by a ~
go this route
I'm surprised more people don't ~ (turn down fame)
came to painting by a roundabout route
he had ~
course: journeys & trips
row (row to hoe)
long row to hoe
it's going to be a ~ (a legal challenge to president)
tough row to hoe
he's got a ~ (a boxing match)
without him, the state will have a ~ (prosecution)
work & duty: farming & agriculture
difficulty, easiness & effort: farming & agriculture
row (row in the same direction, etc.)
row in the same direction
it’s better when we ~
unanimity & consensus: boat
row (row back)
rowed back
the Academy tried to make changes, but they have ~ on most of them
reversal: boat / direction
rub (rub somebody the wrong way)
rubbing fans the wrong way
her whining is ~ (Danica Patrick / auto racer)
rubbed me the wrong way
what he said ~ (rationalization)
rubbed a lot of people the wrong way
she ~ (a poor woman who married money)
feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb
rubber stamp (noun)
rubber stamps for (special-interest) groups
we must assure that these forums are not just ~
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mark
rubble (in the rubble)
In the Rubble
Finding a New Economics ~ (financial earthquake)
destruction: ruins
rubble (other)
financial rubble
regulators sifted through the ~
reduced the country to rubble
they have ~ (Somalia)
destruction: ruins
Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
crossed that Rubicon
and so we ~ (journalist passes info to police)
commitment & determination: allusion / history / river
fate, fortune & chance: allusion / history / river
rub off (verb)
rubs off on the (local) host
the factory refutes the idea that foreign technology ~
rubbing off on you
I guess living with me is ~ a little (father / son)
rub off on Vanessa
I hope some of her will ~ (better behavior)
transmission: rubbing & washing / verb
rudderless
rudderless in the gathering storm
the hospital is ~ (deficits)
seemed rudderless
      an isolated political class that has ~, even helpless

control & lack of control / direction: boat
ruffled (feathers)
appeared ruffled
      he rarely ~ (a diplomat)
appearance: animal / bird
feeling, emotion & effect: animal / bird
rug (under the rug)
swept under the rug
      the whole affair will be ~
concealment & lack of concealment: carpets & rugs
rug (pull the rug out)
pulled the rug out from under him
      the White House ~ (failed to support him)
allegiance, support & betrayal: carpets & rugs / verb
Ruhr Valley
Ruhr Valley
      Hebei Province, China's new ~ (steel)
steel: epithet / place
ruin (verb)
ruined our country with corruption
      they have ~ (president and his family)
ruined me professionally
      the accusations ~
ruined the INS
      decades of that civil-service mentality have ~
ruined the careers
      the Greenville has ~ of two captains (nuclear sub)
ruin (Bruce's) career
      he essentially tried to ~ (scientists)
ruins the ceremony
      letting white guys or non-Indians in ~
ruin it
      if you overcook kangaroo meat, you ~
ruins kidneys
      life support ~, it ruins brains, it ruins all the organs
ruins (people's) lives
      crystal meth ~ (a cop)
ruined my life
      he ~ and a lot of girls' live (rich pedophile)
ruined his (medical) practice
      the H.M.O.s have ~
ruin his (company's) reputation
he was determined not to let the hackers ~
ruin the (tourist) trade
      crime could ~
ruins the catalytic converters
      high-sulfur fuel quickly ~ (sour crude)
tried to ruin
      he essentially ~ Bruce's career (scientists)
quickly ruins
      high-sulfur fuel ~ the catalytic converters (sour crude)
endanger or ruin
      I hope this doesn't ~ your career
destruction: infrastructure / ruins / verb
ruin (in ruins)
in ruins
      my life is ~
largely in ruins
      a civil war that left the country ~ (Sierra Leone)
economy is in ruins
      the rural ~ (Buryatia)
left that country (largely) in ruins
      a civil war that ~ (Sierra Leone)
left his life in ruins
      his alcoholism ~
      ♦ "The timeless allure of ruins" by Paul Cooper (BBC Culture, 16 January 2018) is a wonderful article about our fascination with ruins, accompanied by tremendous artwork.
destruction: infrastructure / ruins
ruin (road to ruin)
doctor's road to ruin
      a ~ (addiction)
destruction: infrastructure / ruins
ruined
ruined by the greed
      the land was ~ of strip-mining
destruction: infrastructure / ruins
ruled
ruled by vice
      my soul was ~
control & lack of control: royalty
ruin (a road can run, etc.)
runs through the (An Nafud) desert
      the route ~
      ♦ Run is extremely polysemous, as explained in "A Verb for Our Frantic Times" by the always delightful Simon Winchester, New York Times, May 28, 2011. And the man himself can be heard speaking at "Has 'Run' Run Amok? It Has 645 Meanings... So Far," NPR, Talk of the Nation, May 30, 2011.
route: walking, running & jumping

fictive motion: walking, running & jumping / verb
run (run deep / high / strong)

run (especially) deep
fears of Moscow ~ in Poland (2009)

runs deep
Wright's admiration for the marines ~ (correspondent)
the sense of allegiance to the Catholic Church ~ (city)
resentment of the US ~ (Arabs)
support for the insurgency ~ (Kandahar)

runs deepest
in places where anti-American sentiment ~ (Iraq, etc.)

ran high
as anti-Western sentiment ~ in the Arab world

runs high
envy ~ in the world of art and intellect

run high
emotions ~ with an abandoned infant (ED nursing)

runs strong
the grief and anger still ~ (murder)
admiration (for the marines) runs deep
his ~ (an embedded correspondent)
anger (still) runs strong
the ~
emotions run high
~ with an abandoned infant (ED nursing)

envy runs high
~ in the world of art and intellect

fears (of Moscow) run deep
~ in Poland (2009)
grief (still) runs strong
the ~

resentment (of the US) runs deep
~ in the Arab world
tensions (in the area) are running high
~ (Gaza)

tradition and reverence for the dead run deep
this is a town where ~ (Puerto Rico)

Melting snowpack will cause a river to run high. If it runs too high, it might burst its banks and cause a flood.

feeling, emotion & effect: river

run (run into something)

run into (further) delays
in case the Russians ~ (space station)
running into some hurdles
marine-energy developers are ~

run into problems
but Zhou's plan to get even ~
run into (political and financial) problems
the project ~ (museum)
run into (serious) resistance
she ~... (girls wants to play football)

run into trouble
trail angels figure out where hikers are likely to ~;
the laws have ~ on free-speech grounds (cross burning);
he has ~ with the law before

run into red tape
the inmate's transfer ~
run into a brick wall
law enforcement has ~

run into stone walls
journalists have ~ with the administration

run into a hornet's nest
the Apache helicopters ~ of antiaircraft fire

obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping / verb
run (run away)

still running
my dad was with another woman, and I ran away, and I am ~ (Amos Oz)

avoidance & separation: verb / walking, running & jumping
run (in / over the long run)

over the long run
our advocacy of human rights ~
happiest in the long run
the thing that will make me ~ is to pursue my education
pay off in the long run
it would ~

time: distance / walking, running & jumping

run (on the run / haste)
on the run
we had to improvise solutions ~
haste: walking, running & jumping

run (on the run / retreat)

have our enemies on the run
we have ~ (terrorism)

resistance, opposition & defeat: walking, running & jumping
runaround

bureaucratic runaround
months of unanswered phone calls and ~s (NYC)
♦ In the wonderful film "Coal Miner's Daughter" there is a funny scene. Doolittle asks Mr. Ted Webb for his daughter Loretta's hand in marriage. Mr. Web tells him to ask his wife, Clara. Clara tells him to ask Ted. Loretta, who has been waiting expectantly, stops Doolittle on his way back to her father and asks him what is going on. Doolittle explains, and Loretta advises him to wait until Ted and Clara are both in bed, and he can catch them together. And that is just what Doolittle does.

progress & lack of progress: direction

runaway

runaway debt
we have to stop ~ (ad for a politician)
runaway rhetoric
we must tone down this ~
runaway success
the ~ of the building
control & lack of control: animal / walking, running & jumping

rung (on the bottom rung)

on the bottom rung
child molesters are ~ (prison)
informants are ~ (prison)
hierarchy: ladder

rung (bottom rung)

bottom-rung job
she landed a ~ there (TV station)
bottom-rung workers
~ in plants, behind counters
hierarchy: ladder

rung (other)

rung of the hierarchy
trappers occupy the most basic and brutal ~ (fur trade)
rungs of power
he worked his way up the ~ (government)
rungs of the (Hindu) caste hierarchy
those on the lowest ~
rung on the (corporate) ladder
their ~
ladder's (lowest) rung
the socioeconomic ~
bottom rung
child molesters and informants are on the ~ (prison)
bottom-rung (m)
she landed a ~ job there (at a TV station)
lowest rung
the socioeconomic ladder's ~
highest rung
free speech occupies the ~ of First Amendment values

hierarchy: ladder

running (continuing)

long-running argument
a ~ about what it means to…
long-running battle
the ~ over the rights of…
long-running competition
their ~
long running conflict
settles a ~ that went to arbitration (business)
long-running (trade) dispute
a ~
long-running dispute
their ~ over bananas (EU / Ecuador)
long-running feud
the latest flare-up of their ~ (2 NASCAR drivers)
long-running fight
a ~
long-running joke
a ~
long-running (government-financed) program
a ~
long-running war
the ~
bitter and long-running (m)
the bloody culmination of a ~ feud (cop / citizen)

starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping

survival, persistence & endurance: walking, running & jumping

run-of-the-mill

run-of-the-mill politician
your ~
run-of-the-mill sinner
a ~
run-of-the-mill store
a ~

worth & lack of worth: manufacturing

run out (verb)

running out of excuses
I'm ~ that sound plausible
ran out of gas
run out of ideas
we've ~

running out of patience
Iraqis are ~ with foreign fighters

running out of time
we're ~ (press conference)
in the new academic world, she's ~ (adjunct)
my greatest fear is ~ (filmmaker)

luck is running out
I feel my ~ (Marine killed in Falluja)

patience is running out
my ~
time is running out
~ (negotiations)

consumption: walking, running & jumping / verb

rupture (noun)
bridge the rupture
US diplomats are trying to ~ (Middle East)

failure, accident & impairment: mechanism
division & connection: mechanism

rush (rush to judgment)
rush to judgment
we contended there had been a ~ (defense lawyer)
we don't need a ~ (national-security lapse)

fell victim to a rush to judgment
she ~ by police following the murder

haste: justice

Russian roulette
play Russian roulette with my livelihood
I can't afford to ~

fate, fortune & chance: weapon

rust (functioning)
rust
at age 38, the ~ caught up with him against… (boxing)

ring rust
Tyson had ~ after long layoff (boxer)
he showed considerable ~ (boxer after a layoff)

functioning: chemistry
flaws & lack of flaws: chemistry

rust (resemblance)

wheat rust
a fungus causes ~
the disease, ~, caused famines in the past
in the 1950s, ~ devastated crops in North America

resemblance: chemistry

risky (adjective)
risky
his skills are ~
a little rusty
after a winter's layoff, every kayaker is ~

functioning: chemistry
flaws & lack of flaws: chemistry

rut (in a rut)
in a rut
we are ~ and spinning our wheels (financial reform)

stuck in a rut
he is ~, unable to move forward

progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land / movement
obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land

S

saber rattling
calculated saber rattling
it's not the drum beat of war, it is ~

message: military / sound / sword

sabotage (verb)
sabotaged his (attempted) reforms
conservatives ~ (politics)

destruction: military / verb

sabotaged
sabotaged by subzero temperatures
our efforts to force the route were ~ (climbing)

destruction: military

saccharine (adjective)
saccharine propaganda
Green Book's ~ (Academy Award winning film)

feeling, emotion & effect: speech / taste
consumption: speech / taste

sacred (adjective)
sacred to Cubs fans
the statue is ~

importance & significance: religion

sacred cow

sacred cow of (farming) subsidies
many countries are afraid to touch the ~
sacred cows are slaughtered
some ~ on the way (educational theory)
destroy the "sacred cow"
   I am not out to ~ of the Kennedy presidency (filmmaker)

idea: animal / cows & cattle / religion
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: animal / cows & cattle / religion

sacrifice (give up something)
sacrificed free speech to political correctness
   the university has ~
sacrificed everything for me
   he ~ and the team (Tour de France)
sacrificed himself for the sake of the team
   he ~ (professional foul / soccer)
sacrifice for success
   boomers are generally willing to ~ (careers)
sacrificed his dream
   he ~ of attending college to help finance…
sacrificed his life
   he ~ by throwing himself directly onto the grenade
sacrificed their lives
   the Rangers who ~ (Roberts Ridge)
sacrifice themselves
   thousands will come after us, ready to ~ (terrorists)
sacrifice their personal lives
   they don't want to ~ (for a career)
ready to sacrifice
   thousands will come after us, ~ themselves (terrorists)
willing to sacrifice
   each one of us is ~ himself for... (suicide terrorist)
sacrifice: religion / verb

saddle (religion / verb)
saddle between the peaks
   he climbed the ~
shape: horse

saddle (actuating saddle, etc.)
acting saddle
   she got right back in the ~ (after college)
role: horse

saddle (oppress)
saddled him with (derogatory) nicknames
   his opponents have ~ (a politician)
saddled America with (high) unemployment
   the stimulus merely ~ and more debt
oppression: horse / verb / weight

saddle (Saddle Island, etc.)
Saddle Island
   we visited ~ (Yemen)
Saddle Mountain
   ~ is in Queensland, Australia

proper name: horse
saddle (saddle up)
saddle up
   let's ~ (get ready and go)
starting, going, continuing & ending: horse / verb
saddled
saddled in debt
   I was ~
oppression: horse / weight

safety net
safety net
   the ~ has become a hammock (dependency)
   the poor don't need a ~, they need a trampoline

safety net for (troubled) students
   gaps in the ~ (suicides at college)
safety net for the poor and uninsured
   the hospital was a ~ (closed)
social safety net
   he dismantled the ~ (Pinochet / Chile)
gaps in the safety net
   ~ for troubled students (suicides at college)
dismantled the (social) safety net
   he ~ (Pinochet / Chile)
weaken, repair, or strengthen the social safety net
   we can ~, or leave it alone (politics)

protection & lack of protection: circus

sag (verb)
sag
   morale in some parts of the office has begun to ~
sags a little bit
   the first half of the movie ~
decline: direction / verb
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances
strength & weakness: materials & substances

saga (noun)
saga
   there is continuing public interest in his ~ (a boxer)
development: journeys & trips
sail (sail to victory, etc.)
sailed to victory
he ~ (a politician)
sailed through the House and Senate
the bipartisan bill ~ by unanimous voice vote (Hubbard Act)
difficulty, easiness & effort: boat / verb
attainment: boat / movement / verb
sailing (smooth sailing)
smooth sailing
after that, it’s ~ (job)
it’s not been all ~ (marriage)
it’s not going to be ~ from now on
difficulty, easiness & effort: boat
saint (superlative)
saint
Judge was a real ~ (9/11 chaplain)
he was not a ~ (anger issues / politician)
no saint
Mr Berlusconi has always maintained he is “~”
behavior / superlative: religion
sainthood (noun)
secular sainthood
his family have mixed feelings about his ~ (Matthew Shepard)
superlative: religion
salient (important)
salient points
he covered all the ~ in his report
 A salient is a projecting part of a fortification. Or it is a bulge on the front line. If the salient is cut off, it becomes a pocket. A salient can form in a number of different ways, and can be defended or used offensively in a number of ways. In World War II, the Kursk Battle and the Battle of the Bulge each developed around a salient. At Kursk the Germans attacked a Russian salient; at the Battle of the Bulge, they used their own salient to spearhead their attack. Both ended up in crushing defeats for them.
importance & significance: fortification / ground, terrain & land / military
salivate (verb)
salivating over the (class-action) lawsuits
lawyers should be ~
salivating at the prospect
consumers are ~ of the new product
salivating to attack
Republicans are ~ the president over…
salivating to build
developers are ~ in the area
eagerness & reluctance: bodily process / mouth / verb
salt (sailor)
old salt
the ~ sent the apprentice off to find Charlie Noble
+ Hazing inexperienced sailors is common. Here, the Charlie Noble actually refers to the galley chimney. But in this case the unwitting apprentice would assume he had been sent to find a person, and would end up asking the entire ship’s crew, all of them in on the joke, for the whereabouts of Charlie Noble before realizing he was being hazed.
experience: boat / taste
salty (language)
salty response
a ~ from an artist who won’t back down (you idiot!)
speech: taste
salute (verb)
saluted his efforts
his colleagues ~ to lower racial barriers (tribute)
salute you
we ~ (encouragement to those who stick to their diets)
achievement, recognition & praise: gesture / military / verb
salvage (verb)
salvage a (decent) life from the wreckage
money to ~ of misfortune
salvage order out of chaos
we are trying to ~ (East Timor)
salvage his career
he got a chance to ~
salvage their credibility
politicians need to ~ (versus corruption)
salvage its season
the team is desperate to ~ (sports)
salvage a (recently scrapped) summit
they are trying to ~
amelioration & renewal: boat / manufacturing / verb
salve (noun)
salve for (racial) rancor
the only ~ is honesty
amelioration & renewal: health & medicine
salvo (noun)
latest salvo
this is the ~ in the war against plastic straws
verbal salvo
they exchanged ~s over this turn of events (enmity)
fired salvos
a number of generals publicly ~ at each other
accusation & criticism / speech: weapon
sand (political sands, etc.)

political sands
the ~ are shifting (diplomacy after the Arab Spring)

environment: desert

sandwiched

sandwiched between Australia and Indonesia
East Timor is half an island ~
sandwiched between Europe and Central Asia
Turkey has a strategic role in a region ~ (Caucasus)

configuration: food & drink

sanitize (verb)

sanitized Mark Twain's masterpiece
he has ~ by replacing the N-word
sanitize the history
the Japanese often ~
textbooks sanitize
~ Japan's wartime atrocities (Japanese schools)

concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb

sanitized
sanitized edition
the ~ of 'Huckleberry Finn' has caused an uproar
sanitized version
lawmakers read aloud a ~ of the US Constitution
less sanitized (m)
reenactors aim for a fun, ~ view of the Old West

concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene

sardined

sardined in the settlement
no more convicts could be ~

configuration: animal / fish / pressure

satellite (noun)

Iranian satellite
Bahrain could become an ~

attraction & repulsion / relationship: astronomy

Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)

Saudi Arabia of coal
the US is the ~
West Virginia has been called the ~

Saudi Arabia of cotton
the South was the ~ (the US Civil War)

Saudi Arabia of lithium
Afghanistan could become the ~ (mineral)

we know that Bolivia can become the ~

Saudi Arabia of clean water
thanks to Lake Michigan, Chicago is the ~

amount: epithet / place
superlative: place

savage (verb)

savaged his critics
the president ~

accusation & criticism: animal / predation / verb
speech: animal / predation / verb

savant (noun)

heavily travelled savants
(sports) scouts are ~ who value young players

knowledge & intelligence: person

save (verb)

save globalization from itself
a prescription to ~

save face
dictators always need to ~ (China / repression)

save "honor"
Pakistani killed daughters to ~ (headline)

save the honor
men who kill women to ~ of their family

save his own skin
he was a liar who just wanted to ~ (criminal trial)

save their skins
executives sold their stock, hoping to ~ (Enron)

save his voice
he would play music to ~ (early days of radio)

survival, persistence & endurance: death & life / verb

savior (noun)

environmental savior
the press made Obama out to be the ~

global savior
NASA doesn't really want the job of ~ (NEOs)

help & assistance: religion

savor (verb)

savor the benefits
~ of living a healthier lifestyle (energy, sleep, etc.)
savored the feeling
I ~ (a massage)
savor the moment
some other voice was telling me to slow down, to ~
savored the moment
I ~ (a moonlit swim)

feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste / verb

say (a sign can say something, etc.)
say
  restaurants signs that ~, “Restrooms for customers only”
says
  a street sign that ~ Martin Luther King

fictive communication: speech / verb

scaffold (verb)
scaffold instruction
  we need to ~ in mixed-ability classes and materials

amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb

scaffolding (noun)
cosmic scaffolding
  strands of dark matter form a kind of ~

amelioration & renewal: infrastructure

scale (tip the scales)
tip the scales
  this could ~
tip the scales against him
  this could ~ (politics)

development / initiation: scale / verb / weight

scalp (noun)
claim another (big) scalp
  Palace ~ (victory against Tottenham Hotspur in FA Cup)
collected scalps
  they issued demands, ~ (US student protestors force resignations)

success & failure: hair / Native Americans / violence

scapegoat (noun)
make Pakistan a scapegoat
  the US is trying to ~ for the war in Afghanistan

punishment & recrimination: animal

scar (verb)
scarred me
  the way my grandpa taught me to drive forever ~

affliction: health & medicine / mark / verb / wounds & scars

scar (psychological scars, etc.)
deep (psychological) scars
  soldiers are coming home with ~ (from Iraq)

emotional scars
  the ~ he inflicted on his children

psychological scars
  ~ suffered by the orphan subjects (experiment)
  soldiers are coming home with deep ~ (from Iraq)

affliction: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars

scar (blemish)
scar on the face
  the slums are a ~ of a beautiful city (Jeddah)

scar on the history
  the Sand Creek massacre is a permanent ~ of Colorado
gaping scar
  the open-pit mine has left a ~ two sq miles in size

permanent scar
  the Sand Creek massacre is a ~ on the history of…

flaws & lack of flaws: mark / wounds & scars

scared (afflicted)
scared by a (harrowing) incident
  all of us have been ~ that happened to a friend…

scared by (childhood) rejection and abuse
  an angry young man ~
scared for life
  I was ~ (traumatic incident)
emotionally scarred
  if you are half as ~ as I am…

affliction: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars

scared (battle-scared, etc.)
scared with piles
  the open land around Norilsk is ~ of tailings (mines)
battle-scared buildings
  checkpoints and ~ (Middle East)
battle-scared capital
  in Mogadishu, Somalia's ~
battle-scared country
  a ~ divided among warlords (Afghanistan)
battle-scared air base
  American forces based at the ~ (Afghanistan)

flaws & lack of flaws: mark / wounds & scars

scarring
scaring experience
  it was a ~ (being bullied)

affliction: health & medicine / mark / wounds & scars

scattershot (adjective)
scattershot approach
  they have taken a ~

extent & scope: weapon
configuration: weapon

scene (behind the scenes)
behind the scenes
people want to know what goes on ~
working (feverishly) behind the scenes
the US is ~ (diplomacy)

concealment & lack of concealment: theater

scent (throw somebody off the scent)
threw the Nazis off the scent with subterfuge
she ~ (saves Polish Jews)
throw the investigators off the scent
he tried to ~
throw the press off the scent
he tried to ~

pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / smell / verb
subterfuge: hunting / smell / verb

schism (noun)
schism between the sides
the ~ has deepened (politics)
division & connection: religion

schooled
 schooled (at an early age) on how to be
he was ~ a drug dealer
experience / knowledge & intelligence: school & education

scintillating (adjective)
scintillating performance
she gave a ~
feeling, emotion & effect / superlative: light & dark

sclerotic (adjective)
sclerotic bureaucracy
businessmen must deal with a ~
sclerotic culture
she campaigned to change the ~ of Sacramento (election)
sclerotic (judicial) system
the ~ is in need of reform
sclerotic, authoritarian (m)
it is not the only country with a ~ political system
unthinking and sclerotic (m)
they rebelled against ~ traditionalism (filmmakers)

condition & status: health & medicine

scold (verb)
scoled the White House press corps for behaving
she sometimes ~ like her children (Sarah Sanders)

accusation & criticism: family / verb

scorched-earth
scorched-earth offensive
this ~ that we saw from the president (attacks his critics)
scorched-earth politics
republicans have adopted his slash-and-burn, ~

conflict / destruction: military / fire

scorching (adjective)
scorching (final) scene
in the play’s ~, she unleashes a torrent of fury at…

feeling, emotion & effect: fire / temperature

score (settle a score, etc.)
score
you're gonna pay, 'cause I'm the one who's keepin' ~
settle scores
there are worries that people may try to ~
* Score refers to an account or a bill.

revenge: money / verb

scour (verb)
scoured the Earth
Bill Whitman ~ for rare fruit (collector)
scoured the Web
crazed fans ~ (“Blair Witch Project”)
scoured his computer
police ~
scoured (all) the records
the new team ~ in the case (prosecution)
scoured 46,332 sq miles
the search ~ of sea floor (for MH370)

searching & discovery: rubbing & washing / verb

scoured (verb)
scoured by whirlwinds
a scorched moonscape ~ of ash (wildfire)

feeling, emotion & effect: rubbing & washing

scourge (noun)
scourge of (mass) incarceration
the ~ rips apart poor communities
scourge of (violent) jihad
the ~ has not gone away
scourge of the Resistance
Klaus Barbie was the ~

affliction: violence / whip
scout (noun)

boy scouts
the ~ are shining paragons of American boyhood
sports scouts
~ are heavily travelled savants who value young players
* The scout / snipers serve as the eyes and ears of the battalion commander.

searching & discovery: military / person

scout (verb)

scout blind drops
please ~ (memorial to kayaker Edward Lee Green)
scout for talent
he came to Bosnia to ~ (KSM / terrorist)

searching & discovery: military / verb

scramble (verb)

scramble to get
I had to ~ some money
scrambled (this week) to prevent
attorneys ~ the public release of recorded statements
scrambling to provide
the government is ~ additional security (Olympics)
scrambling to put
negotiators have been ~ the talks back together
scrambling to salvage
they are ~ the treaty (diplomacy)
scrambling to stop
health officials are ~ the spread of the virus (measles)
scrambled for his (political) survival
he has ~ this week (ethics problems)

difficulty, easiness & effort: walking, running & jumping / verb
haste: walking, running & jumping / verb
activity: walking, running & jumping / verb

scramble (disrupt)

scrambled the lives
he has ~ of everyone in the news business (president)

disruption: mixture / verb

scrap (verb)

scraped (nearly all of) the changes
he has ~ (of the previous regime)
scraped the idea
the team ~ of...
scraped (NASA's) plan
the administration has ~ to return to the moon
scrap its plan
the government must ~ to restart the nuclear reactors
scrap that strategy
they should ~ and try something different
scraped the (color-coded) system
the Obama administration ~ (terrorism alerts)

dismissal, removal & resignation: manufacturing / verb

scrap (noun)

scrap of the (old) economy
young people should fight over the remaining ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: bludgeon / knife / verb

scrape (verb)

scrap 500,000 members’ private details
the flaw allowed hackers to ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / knife / verb

searching & discovery: rubbing & washing / verb
computer: knife / blade / verb

scrape by (verb)

scraping by
farmers are just ~

survival, persistence & endurance: blade / knife / verb

scraped
scraped by the governor
the project was ~
project was scrapped
he believes the ~ later this year (State Dept.)
tour was scrapped
the ~ (music)
want them scrapped
Americans oppose the bills and ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: manufacturing

scream (scream "premium," etc.)

scream 'premium'
if there are scratches on the tin, that doesn’t ~ (paint)

fictive communication: speech

screen (split screen)

split screen of conduct
it’s a ~ that is required (manufacturing hygiene in India)

comparison & contrast: film

screw (tighten the screws)

tightened the screws
the judge ~ and... (sentence)
pressure: tools & technology / verb
coercion & motivation: tools & technology / verb
screw up (verb)
screwed up
I ~

failure, accident & impairment: tools & technology / verb
script (to script)
exactly to script
things haven't gone ~ (a boxer's career)
gone (exactly) to script
things haven't ~ (a boxer's career)
development / script: theater
scrub (remove)
scrub campuses clean
some want to ~ of words, ideas, and subjects that might cause discomfort
scrub a computer
they made a plan to ~ (criminal investigation)
scrub the record
can you imagine Clinton after impeachment trying to ~
scrub your criminal record
state agencies can ~ (expungements, sealing records)

concealment & lack of concealment: hygiene / verb
scrub (reporters)

sidewalk scrum
during a ~ with reporters, he was asked why... (a politician)
♦ A press gaggle is similar.

group, set & collection: sports & games
scum (insult)
wash the scum off the streets
we need to ~ of criminals, etc.)
some day a real rain will come and ~ (the film Taxi Driver)

insult: hygiene
worth & lack of worth: hygiene
violence: hygiene

scupper (verb)

skuppered the deal
that's what ~ the last time
destruction: boat / sea / verb
scuttle (verb)

scuttled an agreement
she headed off a dispute that nearly ~ (diplomacy)
scuttled her plans
she ~ to become a teacher

scuttled its economics program
the university ~

scuttled the talks
no side wishes to appear to have ~
♦ On November 27, 1942, the French scuttled the French fleet in Toulon as the Germans attempted to seize it. Three battleships, 7 cruisers, 15 destroyers, and 12 submarines were sunk. Sea valves were opened, also, demolition charges were set off. The German military was disappointed they hadn't been able to seize the ships intact, but Hitler was pleased because the fleet was destroyed and could not be used against the Axis. The captains of a few ships were able to sail them to the Allies.
♦ On the 21st of June, 1919, German sailors scuttled the interned German High Seas Fleet in Scapa Flow. Arguably, it was the greatest loss of shipping in a single day in world history. Fifty-two of the 74 ships went to the bottom.
destruction: boat / sea / verb
scuttled

scuttled by the governor
the project was ~
scuttled show
the musical was a last-minute replacement for a ~
deal was scuttled
the ~ (politics)
plan was (later) scuttled
the ~ was (government)
destruction: boat / sea

Scylla and Charybdis

between “Scylla and Charybdis” their proposals are an unnecessary choice ~ (Greek crisis)
Scylla of blandness and the Charybdis of confrontation like most shows of this ilk, it toggles between the ~

alternatives & choices: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey
danger: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

sea (in a sea)
in a sea of (armed) chaos
Somaliland is an island of stability ~
in a (rising) sea of (moral) pollution
they saw themselves as a small archipelago of decency ~
sea of sexism
we existed in a ~ (Poppy Northcutt of NASA)
in a sea of woes
a school flailing ~ (title of article)
environment: sea / water

sea (environment)

sea
it is the ~ we all swim in (the Internet and regulation)
environment: sea / water
sea (at sea)

at sea
  policy makers are ~

**direction:** boat / sea

sea (amount)

sea of candles
  a ~ and flowers (public memorial to terror victims)

sea of clouds
  I saw a ~ extending miles and miles (fire tower)

sea of data
  the testing mandates had generated a ~ (education)

sea of debt
  a ~ threatens to drown the dreams of a generation

sea of (unfamiliar) faces
  all I saw was a ~

sea of humanity
  the pilgrims formed a ~ (Haj)

sea of (rights) issues
  the turbulent ~ (copyright)

sea of merchandise
  there's a ~ (department store)

sea of people
  as far as I could see was a ~

sea of pilgrims
  a seemingly endless ~ (Haj)

sea of protestors
  a ~ were waving Socialist party flags (Albania)

sea of red
  the stands were a ~ (Seoul World Cup stadium)

seas of squalor
  islands of prosperity within great ~ (Bombay, etc.)

sea of thoughts
  he says his mind is a muddled ~

sea of unknowns
  the oil spill has created a ~

sea of candles and flowers
  a ~ (public memorial to terrorist victims)

sea of (Japanese) flags and signs
  the stands were a ~ (baseball)

sea of (2,000 mostly) Hispanic students
  this ~ (school)

sea of red ink
  keep it from crashing in a ~

**amount:** sea

sea (sea of sand, etc.)

sea of mud
  everywhere is a ~ (after a tsunami)

sea of sand
  their way was blocked by an impassible ~ (desert)

dune sea
  the great ~s called ergs in Arabic (Sahara)

sand sea
  the Eastern Erg, a ~ covering 120,000 square miles

**resemblance:** sea

sea change (noun)

sea change for Saudi Arabia
  it’s a ~ (ending reliance on oil)

**amount & effect:** sea

creation & transformation: sea

**seal of approval**

seal of approval
  he gave me that grin of his, and that was his ~

mob's seal of approval
  a kiss on the cheek was the ~

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sign

**seam (burst at the seams)**

bursting at the seams
  a nearby campground is ~

size: clothing & accessories

**seamless (adjective)**

seamless service
  the company delivers ~ to its customers

seamless teamwork
  ~ can be a potent weapon (epidemiology)

division & connection: cloth

flaws & lack of flaws: cloth

**seamlessly**

seamlessly
  they work together ~

division & connection: cloth

**search (for truth, cure, etc.)**

search for answers
  the ~ should start with…
    turning to a spiritual path in their ~

search for a cure
  the ~ for autism

search for evidence
the ~ of childhood abuse

search for fulfillment
their ~ goes unrewarded (quarterlifer crisis)

search for identity
his adolescence was marked by a painful ~ (racial)

search for thrills
the ~ can kill (Chilko River rafting disaster)

search for the truth
in the unrelenting ~

unrelenting search
in the ~ for the truth

spiritual search
he began a ~ that took him to…

searching & discovery: hunting
search (strip search)
digital strip-searches
critics are unhappy over ~ (cop requests for smartphones)
~ of victims are unnecessary and violate victims’ rights

concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories / crime
seared
seared into my consciousness
that period of time was (divorce of her parents)

seared in the Japanese consciousness
Hiroshima and Nagasaki are ~

seared into the national consciousness
their names are ~ (names of World War I battles)

seared in my mind
that's a moment that is ~ forever (disaster)

seared in her memory
her rape is ~

remain seared
the images ~ in our collective memory (9/11)

impression: fire / mark / sensation
sensation: fire / mark

searing (adjective)
searing attack
he launched into a ~ on the Republicans (politics)

feeling, emotion & effect: fire
sensation: fire

season (time)
harvest season
he has a sense that this is his "~" (lifetime awards)

we are ~ right now but we will come out of it (hope of change)

time: season
development: season

seasoned (adjective)
seasoned actor
she is a ~

seasoned doctors
~ are likely to be resistant to coaching

seasoned executive
the company needs a ~ with a proven track record

seasoned investigator
he is a ~ who specializes in cleaning house (government)

seasoned (tax) lawyers
even ~ are confounded by the new rules

seasoned professional
she is a ~

seasoned (diplomatic) troubleshooter
he is a ~ (dispatched by president to Egypt)

seasoned and sensible (m)
he is a ~ traveler

young but seasoned
he is ~ (city lobbyist at state capital)

experience: taste
seat (front seat)
front seat
I have had a ~ to many profound events

proximity: theater
seat (front-row seat)
front-row seat to the tornado
they had a ~ (storm chasers)

had a front-row seat
they had a ~ to the tornado (storm chasers)

proximity: theater
second-class (adjective)
second-class citizen
comedy has always been a ~ (in films, versus drama)

superiority & inferiority: ticket
seduce (verb)
seduce patrons (of the arts) into parting
he hoped to ~ with some money (backers’ audition)

seduce Hollywood
the film has gone on to ~ since being unveiled at Cannes
pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage / verb

**seduced**

seduced by him
authors were often ~ at first but then became disenchanted (publishing)
seduced by the siren song
they've been ~ “college for everyone”

**seductive (adjective)**

seductive spokesman
he is a ~ for a new brand of youthful defiance (Han Han)
seductive theory
it's a ~
sounded seductive
the pitch has ~ (for an educational fad)

attraction & repulsion: sex

**see (a date can see something)**

saw (over 250) climbers trying
23 May ~ to summit Mount Everest

**fictive meeting & seeing: eye / verb**

**see (visit / meet)**

sees him (maybe) once a month
his biological father ~

see a doctor
he had to pay $95 to ~ (immigrant)
I advise you to ~
saw a neurologist
she ~, who diagnosed traumatic brain injury with…
see the (patient's) nurse
please ~ to obtain a mask (hospital)
see you around
I'll ~
came to see
thousands ~ Willy Nelson (concert)
advise you to see
I ~ a doctor
place to see
the mall, for many teens, is a ~ and be seen

**social interaction: eye / verb**

**see (see action, etc.)**

saw action
she last ~ Jan. 8 against Arizona (basketball)
see combat
he never expected to ~ (young soldier)
saw combat
the B-2 stealth bomber first ~ in the air war over Kosovo
see fees
consumers ~ everywhere (phone, credit cards, hotels)

**seen (angry) protests**
Bolivia has ~ by the country's indigenous majority
see the world
in his early 20's he set off to ~
I wanted to ~

see a great fight
win or lose, you're going to ~ (with boxer Arturo Gatti)
see more responsible government
we are beginning to ~ (Indonesia)

seen the return of the wolf
the west has ~ (US / relocation programs)

seen an increase in attendance
the library has ~ at spoken-word events

expected to see
he never expected to ~ combat (young soldier)
a lot to see
there is quite ~ within the underwater caves here
set off to see
in his early 20's he ~ the world

**experience: eye / verb**

**see (comprehension)**

see
you'll ~…
I ~ (understand)

see your point
I ~ and it's a good one

see for yourself
you'll ~ how you can save (ad for store)

see the potential
don't you ~ for disaster here

**comprehension & incomprehension: eye / verb**

**see (see something coming)**

saw it coming
I never ~
they never ~
nobody ~ (boy arrested)
we were caught flatfooted, we never ~

see it coming
he didn't ~ (heart attack)

• Shrek: My father was an ogre. He tried to eat me. I should have seen it coming.
• You don't play with snakes and not expect to get bitten.
consciousness & awareness: eye / verb
development: direction
future: eye / movement / verb

see (future)

see
we’ll just have to ~ (what will happen)
but we don’t know what the court will do, we’ll ~
see beyond the next election
many politicians can barely ~

future: eye / verb

see (perceive)

see Tutsi as (foreign) interlopers
many Congolese ~ (eastern Congo)
see the collapse on the horizon
we can ~ (a resumption of ethnic strife)
sees himself as an ambassador
he ~ for his sport (Tito Ortiz)
see it as a (good) excuse
some ~ not to go to the office (snowfall in London)
seen themselves as the gatekeepers
book publishers have long ~ of literary culture
see immigration as an (invisible) invasion
people ~ (Europe)
saw the Germans as liberators
many Siberian gulags ~ (W. W. II)
see themselves as members
many Congolese Tutsi ~ of a vulnerable minority
see boxing as a ticket
many Indian girls ~ to a middle-class life (India)
see themselves as the victims
Shiites always ~ (said by a US diplomat / Iraq)
see the world from a different perspective
people who ~ (autism)

see eye to eye
I don’t ~ with my new boss
sees fit
he is determined to live as he ~ (a Native American)
see the best
~ in others (wise advice)
see nothing wrong
many ~ with it
see choice
patients ~ as both a blessing and a burden
saw himself
what mattered was how he ~ (identity)
see any hope

Palestinians don’t ~ in the plan
see it
there’s another world out there, you just can’t ~
see warmth
the thermal-imaging camera can ~ through walls (cops)
saw different things
people ~ (televised hearings)
continue to see
we ~ strong job growth
hard to see
progress may be slow and ~ (nursing / rehabilitation)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye / verb

see (a date can see, etc.)

seen
This is some of the hottest air we have ~ in half a decade
saw over 250 climbers
23 May ~ try to summit (Mount Everest)
seen a 100 degree temperature
New York City has not ~ in seven years
saw the Scandinavians eliminated
her goal ~ by the same team that...

occurrence: eye / verb
fictive meeting & seeing: eye / verb

see (refer to)

see www.nim.nih.gov / research
a draft version is available, ~

See Instructions
~ (product)

reference: eye / verb

see (see through something)

see (right) through you
I can ~ (to real motivations)
saw through the (spurious) claims
he ~ of a therapy called... (autism)

consciousness & awareness: eye / verb
subterfuge: eye / verb

seed (noun)

seeds of distrust
India’s 21-day war with China in 1962 sowed ~
seeds of doubt
plant the ~
seeds of rebellion
enforced potty sitting can sow the ~ (toddlers)
seeds of (sectarian) hatred
the ~ had taken root
seeds of revolt
Facebook helped to blow the ~ across the country

seeds of revolution
Nasser wanted to plant the ~ on the Arabian Peninsula

seed for that (momentous) law
the ~ was planted about 40 years earlier (Title IX)

seeds for (future) unrest
they have planted the ~ (military hangs on to power)

seed money
the government loans will be ~ (to new businesses)

plant the seeds
the British helped to ~ of discord in Afghanistan

planted the seeds
he ~ that gave principals more autonomy (education)

sowing the seeds
he could be ~ of a new disaster (price controls)

sow the seeds
enforced potty sitting can ~ of rebellion (toddlers)

♦
“He planted the seed, and I’m just one of the apples that fell from the tree.” (Tribute paid by a black rodeo rider to a pioneer in his sport.)

♦
You don’t harvest grapes from planting thorns. (An Arab proverb.)

♦
“He who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind.” (The Bible.)

creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant
growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant

seep (verb)
seeps into (neighboring) countries
heroin ~ and then into Russia (from Afghanistan)

seeped into mainstream thinking
it ~

movement: water / verb

seesaw (noun)
seesaw of emotions
thus began, for him, a violent ~ toward Kevin

seesaw battle
they are locked in a ~ for the strategic city

see-saw (economic) recovery
the ~

legal seesaw
the ~ was part of a protracted battle (environment)

development: direction

seethe (verb)
seething with anger
protestors are ~ (against the US)

feeling, emotion & effect: heating water / temperature / verb / water

initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water

seismic (adjective)
seismic
the impact would be ~ (if poor teachers got better)

seismic shift
increased female enrollments portends a ~ (education)
we need a ~ in the way maternity care is provided

historic and seismic (m)
the coalition government marks a ~ shift (Britain)

amount & effect / extent & scope: earthquake

seize (verb)
seize the moment
he has failed to ~ (a politician and economic problems)

seize the reins
he will probably ~ (football player for a position)

seize or hold
~ key terrain and counterattack the enemy

possession: hand / verb
fictive possession: hand / verb

self-destructive (adjective)
self-destructive behaviour
he is known for his ~ (celebrity)

self-destructive tendencies
his ~ have resurfaced

self-destructive habit
most addicts want to kick their ~

behavior: explosion
character & personality: explosion

destruction: explosion

sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
sell my soul to the devil
I’d ~ for…

hyperbole: money / verb
wants, needs, hopes & goals: money / verb
commitment & determination: money / verb

sell (promote)
sell his (immigration) bill to the public
a trip to ~ (President Bush)
sells women an ideal
the fashion industry also ~ of beauty (thinness)
sell yourself
you have to ~ (job interviewing)
selling himself as a dealmaker
he’s ~ who can take on President Trump (Joe Biden)

message: money / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: money / verb
sell out (verb)
selling out to big energy
environmentalists say federal officials are ~ (drilling)
sold out for the money
he was a great actor, but he ~ (films)
sold out his (progressive) ideals
he has ~
sold out its members
some say the union has ~ (contract)
allegiance, support & betrayal: money / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: money / verb

sensitive (adjective)
sensitive to their concerns
we must be ~ (diplomacy)
sensitive issue
this is a ~ in Israel
feeling, emotion & effect: sensation

sentence (life sentence)
permanent life sentence
there can’t be a ~ on someone who does something wrong
punishment & recrimination: justice

sentinel (noun)
sentinels of environmental quality
birds are ~
warning: military / person

Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
Serengeti of the North
the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is often referred to as the ~
biodiversity: epithet / place

sermon (message)
subject of his sermon
the sinister power of TV is the ~ (the film Network)
message: Bible / religion / speech

servant (noun)
servants
hold the church accountable for the actions of its ~
servants to us
fossil fuels are enormous ~
civil servants
54% of ~ come to work late (Saudi Arabia)
public servant
he is a ~ in the Russian Forestry Service

help & assistance / work & duty: person

serve up (verb)
serves up anti-Obama rhetoric
he ~ every night (a news host)

supplying: food & drink / verb

set (skill set)
skill set (was perfect) for that show
his ~ (S.N.L.)
group, set & collection: tools & technology

setback (progress)
setback
a ~ in their frustrating hunt for the sniper (D.C. area)
setbacks
he has had some ~
... she knows her ~ will soon be in the rear-view mirror (teen)
handed (its first major) setback
the terrorist group was ~ when...
crises and setbacks
the heartbreaking of constant medical ~
progress & lack of progress: direction / movement / journeys & trips

set off (verb)
set off a domino effect
this ~ (economic collapse)
set off a (political) storm
her decision has ~ in the Netherlands
set off a firestorm
he ~ of opposition when he…
set off a (trade) war
economic sanctions could ~
set off shock waves
he ~ with his statement
set off a shoot-out
the request ~ between the two camps
initiation: explosion / verb

set off (feeling and emotion)
set him off
little things would ~ (a violent man)
set the president off
that was the thing that ~ (upset him)
set off a wave of emotions
the resignations ~ from sadness to relief
set off a wave of fury
the nominee list ~
set off a wave of pride
  his success has ~ (Japanese ballplayer)

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb

set out / off (verb)

set out on this path
  he ~ in 1997 by writing... (rehabilitated his career)

set out to film
  they ~ the city's prostitutes (documentary / Calcutta)

set out to master
  I ~ fence-building and brush-clearing

set out to take
  Mr. Marwa ~ revenge (on murderers of his relative)

set out to terrorize
  extremists rejected these terms and ~... (Rwanda)

set out to take revenge
  Mr. Marwa ~ (on murderers of his relative)

set off on a wild rampage
  dozens of teenage boys ~ (Central Park)

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

set piece (noun)

regular weekly media set-pieces
  the ~ are no longer the must-watch sideshows (soccer club)

performance: theater

settle down (verb)

settle down
  nobody knows when things will ~ again (shaken)

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: equilibrium & stability / verb

sewn (sewn up)

sewn up the nomination
  he has effectively ~ (a politician)

sewn up the support
  she has ~ she needs (politics)

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth

shackle (noun)

break the shackles
  we must ~ of an oppressed people's chains

constraint & lack of constraint: crime

shade (throw shade)

threw some shade at the channel
  he congratulated his rival but also ~ (PewDiePie)

accusation & criticism: light & dark

shadow (concealment)

in the shadows
  killing, interrogating and bribe are done ~ (terrorism)

from the shadows to the spotlight
  survivors have moved ~ (sex abuse)

live in the shadows
  many homeless men and women avoid shelters and ~

live life in the shadows
  they ~ (CIA agents)

lurking in the shadows
  syphilis is a major scourge ~ (China public health)

operate in the shadows
  spammers ~, relying on botnets (Russia)

drive them (further) into the shadows
  the law will only ~ (illegal immigrants)

draw the undocumented out of the shadows
  we need to ~ and into the sunlight of legal status

concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / shadow

shadow (cast a shadow)

cast a shadow
  his flaws ~ (Sinatra)

casts a shadow (of suspicion) over all priests
  it ~ (sexual misconduct)

cast a shadow over the Oscars
  the war ~ this year (Iraq)

cast a shadow over the (New York) Police
  the case ~

cast a shadow over our (foreign-policy) record
  Rwanda ~

cast a (dark) shadow
  the tragic accident ~ over US-Korean relations

feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / shadow

oppression: light & dark / shadow

shadow (in / under the shadow)

in the shadow of the gun
  they live ~ (Kashmiris)

in the shadow of terrorism
  many are revitalizing family ties ~ (US)

under the shadow of a boycott
  Algeria voted ~

feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / shadow

oppression: light & dark / shadow

shadow (dark shadow, etc.)

dark shadow
  the ~ of the tyranny has been lifted (Obama / Libya)
deadly shadow
   the mystique of pole vaulting includes a ~ (fatalities)
horrible shadow
   there has been this ~ over his legacy (child abuse)

**feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark / shadow**
oppression: light & dark / shadow

**shadow (attention)**

shadow of the (previous) coach
   he will never escape the ~ (basketball)
brother’s shadow
   he was desperate to emerge from his ~ (Mike Quarry)

in Moscow’s shadow
   a city that has always labored ~ (St. Petersburg)
in the shadow of (such a) legend
   was it hard growing up ~ (grandson of famous woman)
labored in (Moscow’s) shadow
   a city that has always ~
escape the shadow
   he will never ~ of the previous coach (basketball)
emerge from his brother’s shadow
   he was desperate to ~ (boxer Mike Quarry)

step out of the long shadow
   Sarajevo is attempting to ~ of war

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark / shadow**
superiority & inferiority: light & dark / shadow

**shadow (proximity)**

in the shadow of Mount Snowdon
   she works as a hill farmer ~
   the volcano shapes the lives of everyone who ~

**proximity: light & dark / shadow**

shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)

beyond any shadow of a doubt
   I will convince you ~ (trial)
without a shadow of a doubt
   they knew, ~, that he was guilty

**certainty & uncertainty: light & dark / shadow**

shadow (devitalized)

shadow of himself
   he’s a ~, of his best times (a chess grandmaster)
shadow of its former self
   the company will be a ~
   the group is a ~ (terrorists)
shadow of what it used to be

   in reality the Royal Navy is already a ~

**attenuation: light & dark / shadow**

**substance & lack of substance: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (proximity)**

shadow
   I’m supposed to be your ~ (follow you and watch you)

**proximity: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (follow)**

shadow the politician
   she asked to ~ on a 15-hour “ride-a-long” (reporter)

**proximity: light & dark / shadow / verb**

**shadow (mirror)**

shadow governors
   the rebels have named ~
shadow foreign secretary
   Labour’s ~ Emily Thornberry
shadow attorney general
   the ~

**repetition: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)**

shadow boxing
   jumping rope, ~, hitting the heavy bag (boxers)

**substance & lack of substance: light & dark / shadow**

**shadow (rain shadow, etc.)**

rain shadow
   the uplands leave the valley in a ~

**configuration: light & dark / shadow**

**shadowy**

shadowy figure
   he is a ~ whose intentions remain shrouded in mystery
shadowy (extremist) groups
   ~ have burned Internet cafes
shadowy (Internet) organization
   the documents were released by a ~

shadowy world
   his arrest provides a lens onto the ~ of computer hackers
shadowy Baluchistan Liberation Army
   the ~, born in the 1970’s (Pakistan)

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark / shadow**

**shady (adjective)**

shady dealings
   ~ made him a rich man

**corruption / subterfuge: light & dark / shadow**
shake (disrupt)
shaken the university
the allegations have ~
shakes people from their slumber
I hope this film ~ (Spike Lee)
feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb
disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb
shake (remove)
shake her demons
she couldn't ~ (singer dies of drug overdose)
shake my depression
I couldn't ~
shake off the sense
I couldn't ~ of pessimism and failure I felt
dismissal, removal & resignation: movement
shaken (feeling)
shaken to my core
I was ~ (by a perceived injustice)
drained and shaken
I left feeling ~ (tour of Auschwitz)
left him shaken
the violence ~
leave the movie shaken
you ~ (a film review)
feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability
Shakespearean
Shakespearean in scope and grandeur
the Olympics will be ~ (drama, tragedy, comedy)
Shakespearean proportions
this is a tragedy of ~ (family murder)
superlative: allusion
shake up (verb)
shook up the (immigration) debate
the president ~ (President Trump)
disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb
shake-up (noun)
shakeup in leadership at the Department of Homeland Security
what do you think the ~ indicates
sudden shake-up
the ~ could signal instability in the regime
disruption: equilibrium & stability
shaky (equilibrium)
shaky bank
~s, volatile markets…
shaky ground
their relationship is on ~
shaky relationship
they have a ~
shaky science
the company's claims rest on ~
shaky start
the spacewalk got off to a ~
shaky truce
they have reached a ~ in their trade dispute
flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability
shallow (adjective)
shallow analysis
this is a ~ of a complex problem
shallow book
it is a ~ from a shallow man
shallow goal
looking beautiful is a ~
shallow roots
she has ~ in the state (a politician)
shallow questions
they are asking very ~
uneducated & shallow
her detractors are ~
extent & scope / substance & lack of substance: water
shape (condition)
financial shape
airlines aren't in ~ to back a new industry (biofuels)
fiscal shape
we are in better ~ now (politics)
in good shape
baseball is ~
condition & status: health & medicine
shape (verb)
shape a (desired) behavior
teachers can ~
shape the future
a battle that could ~ of home cinema (standard)
creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb
shaped
shaped by coal
shaped by oil
the 20th century was ~
shaped by natural gas
the 21st century may well be ~ (energy)
creation & transformation: manufacturing
shark (throw someone to the sharks)
thrown to the sharks
Alberto has been ~ (unproven allegations of doping)
allegiance, support & betrayal: animal / shark / verb
shark (predation)
financial shark
he is a ~ who downsizes companies
full of sharks
elite summer basketball is ~ (AAU coaches)
predation: animal / shark
sharp (adjective)
sharp
his skills are still ~
functioning: blade / knife
condition & status: blade / knife
sharp (speech)
sharp words
the officer exchanges ~ with a man
speech: blade / knife
sharpen (verb)
sharpen her concentration
the extreme pressure only seemed to ~ (Wimbledon)
sharpen our instincts
we must ~ for empathy
sharpen his skills
he took a kayaking clinic to ~
sharpen wit
the prospect of death can ~
amelioration & renewal: blade / knife / verb
increase & decrease: blade / knife / verb
sharp-tongued
sharp-tongued
she's a ~ woman
speech: blade / knife / tongue
shatter (verb)
shattered the (fragile) calm
the attack ~ that had descended on Tel Aviv
shattered (people's) hopes
they ~ of seeing their country become a democracy
shatter our image
it does kind of ~ of Taos (crimes)
shatter (the enemy's) nerve
the objective is to ~ (shock and violence)
shattered stability
the country's first-ever coup in 1999 ~
shatter her self-esteem
it will ~
shatter stereotypes
Tunisia's liberal social policies ~ of the Arab world
shattered the family's life
her daughter's rape and death ~
shatter everyday life
drugs and crime ~
destruction: materials & substances / verb
feeling, emotion and effect: materials & substances / verb
shattered
shattered by the (Sept. 11) attacks
that illusion was ~
confidence (in United) is shattered
his ~ (airline delays)
ilusion was shattered
that ~ by the Sept. 11 attacks
destruction: materials & substances
shattering
confidence-shattering (m)
trying to overcome a ~ rookie year (basketball)
ear-shattering (m)
he heard an ~ noise
earth-shattering
the potential is ~
destruction: materials & substances
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances
shave (removal)
shave billions off their taxes
companies know how to ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / hair / verb
shave (close shave)
close shave
it was a ~ (narrow escape)
danger: blade / hair
fate, fortune & chance: blade / hair
shed (verb)
shed (36,000) jobs
the economy ~ last month
shed the pound
those who are trying to ~ (dieting)
dismissal, removal & resignation: hair / verb
sheep (consciousness)

sheep
most people are ~
consciousness & awareness: animal / sheep
sheep (black sheep)
black sheep of the family
he's the ~
I was the ~ and took the wrong direction (gang)
black-sheep brother
invite the ~ to the wedding
character & personality: animal / sheep

shelf life
has shelf life
he ~, he will last (a philosopher)
survival, persistence & endurance: food & drink

shell (substance)
shell
he came back a ~, like a ghost (soldier)
shell company
~s for the tax evader and money launderer
substance & lack of substance: sea

shell (protection)
come out of my shell
I was a shy person who needed to ~ (got into boxing)
came out of my shell
that's when my life began and I ~ (gay leaves home)
stayed inside my shell
I ~ for the first two or three weeks (summer camp)
protection & lack of protection: animal / sea / water
isolation & remoteness: animal / sea / water

shellshocked
shellshocked
I was so ~, I left the building by the wrong exit
shell-shocked Barca side
a ~ was unable to fashion any serious response
looked shellshocked
he ~ in court (a celebrity who was arrested for rape)

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion

shelter (verb)
sheltered the terrorist
Pakistan denied that it had ~
protection & lack of protection: place / verb

shelve (verb)
shelved its mascot
the university has ~
shelved the plan
Beijing officials have ~ to redevelop the neighborhood
dismissal, removal & resignation: books & reading / verb

shepherd (verb)
shepherding the (main) bill through the Senate
he is ~ (US)
shepherded me through the medina
he ~ (Fez guide)
directing: journeys & trips / sheep / verb

Sherlock Holmes
Sherlock Holmes
I used to call her ~ (journalist Lyra McKee)

searching & discovery: allusion

shibboleth (noun)
educational shibboleth
"learning styles" has become an ~
jab at the shibboleths
he took a populist line to ~ that China promotes
idea: religion
sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: religion

shield (noun)
shield from the (sun's harmful) rays
ozone provides a protective ~
missile shield
the first step in deploying a ~
a global ~ won't work
missile defense shield
U.S. testing of a ~
Desert Shield (m)
the ~ buildup before the Persian Gulf War
global (missile) shield
a ~ won't work
human shield
Muslim rebels used men, women and children as ~s
Saddam's loyalists are using Iraqi civilians as ~s
his supporters have offered themselves up as ~s
protective shield
ozone provides a ~ from the sun’s harmful rays
human and religious shields
the Iraqis have used ~ (Iraqi Freedom)
testing of a (missile defense) shield
U.S. ~

protection & lack of protection: military / weapon

shift (change)
political shift
there has been a big ~

position, policy & negotiation: position / movement

shifty (adjective)
shifty character
she’s a ~, watch out

character & personality / subterfuge: direction

shining (superlative)
shining examples
these men stand as ~ of bravery
shining paragons
~ of American boyhood (scouts)

superlative: light & dark

ship (ship of state, etc.)
ship of their research
ey they caulked up every seam in the ~
ship of state
the protestors wish to sink the ~
bases: boat / sign, signal, symbol
epithet: boat / sea

ship (ship of the desert)
“ships of the desert”
many Australian farmers keep the country’s prolific ~

transportation: boat / epithet
epithet: boat / sea

ship (tight ship, etc.)
run a (very) tight ship
we ~ (a company with many rules)

steering the ship
some believe he was actually ~ (a vice-president)

control & lack of control: boat

ship (abandon / jump ship)
abandon ship
it’s time to ~ (a failing company)

jumping ship
a lot of investors are ~

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: boat
allegiance, support & betrayal: boat

ship (sink the ship)
sink the ship
the protestors wish to ~ of state

destruction: boat / verb

ship (right the ship, etc.)
right the ship
we’ll see if the company can ~ (financial problems)
righted the ship
he ~ (a troubled government agency)
right our (fiscal) ship
we must ~ (budget)

steady the ship
even Messi was unable to ~ (loss to Liverpool)

amelioration & renewal: boat / verb
equilibrium & stability: boat / verb

ship (ship has sailed, etc.)
ship has sailed
that ~ (no regrets now)

ship has (long since) sailed
the civility ~ in American politics (2019)

♦ “Your dad loved her very much. It there was one other cat in this world that could have loved her and treated her as well as your dad, then it was me. But, unfortunately, for yours truly, that train has sailed.” (Austin Powers to Vanessa Kensington from the film Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery.)

timeliness & lack of timeliness: boat / verb

ship (launched a thousand ships)
launched a thousand jokes and memes
this bipartisan hope that has ~ (infrastructure)

Initiation: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

shipwreck (noun)
shipwreck of my conscience
I would not make a ~ (Paulet, 1587)

destruction: boat / crashes & collisions
failure, accident & impairment: boat / crashes & collisions

shoal (noun)
run aground on the shoals
the promises have ~ of changing sex ratios

failure, accident & impairment: boat / sea
danger / destruction / obstacles & impedance: boat / sea

shock (verb)
shocked the world
Ireland ~ by announcing… (dispute with Vatican)
shocks and terrifies
violence ~ even the best-trained troops (combat)
offend, shock or disturb
those that ~ the majority (freedom of expression)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity / verb

shock (in shock)

still in shock
he was ~ but relieved… (survivor of porch collapse)

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity

shock (feeling)

shock
9/11 was a ~ that should not have come as a surprise
shock of combat
training can lessen the surprise and ~
shock of prison
after the ~ wears off
shock for me
it was a ~ and everyone else
shock for the (previously unbeaten) team
it was a ~
shock radio
for those who enjoy ~
shock and delight
the winners’ ~ (MacArthur Award)
shock or horror or outrage or indignation
I could not show ~ (journalist witness to ethnic strife)

family's shock
she recalls the ~ when her mother was arrested

culture shock
reverse culture shock can worse than the classic ~
sticker shock
bracing themselves for ~ (laptop-computer prices)
absolute shock
this is an ~ (death of a young athlete)

quite a shock
it was ~ (mine disaster)

look of shock
I saw the ~ in his face
state of shock
we were all in a complete ~ (athlete's sudden death)
anger and shock
the ~ (to yet another terrorist bombing)
surprise and shock
training can lessen the ~ of combat

shock (of prison) wears off
after the ~

lessen the (surprise and) shock
training can ~ of combat

come as a shock
I know this may ~ to you
it may ~ to people…

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity

shocked (adjective)

shocked
not one of the students in the group looked ~

shocked that
people are ~ this is so close to home;
they're kind of ~ her parents are white, and she's not
he said that he is ~ a killing could take place there

shocked to see
he was ~ so many dead or wounded (combat)

shocked at her appearance
they were ~ (eating disorder)

shocked at the prices
they may be ~ (rent for assisted living)

shocked at what
they are ~ is now happening

shocked when
Iraqi commanders were ~ they discovered…

shocked by the attacks
Australians were ~ (bombing on Bali)

shocked by the decision
he was ~ not to renew his contract (job)

shocked by the (gorilla) killings
conservationists were ~ (DR Congo / Virunga)

shocked by the news
they were ~ (favorite restaurant closed)

shocked by the number
she was ~ of Muslims having surgery to…

shocked by these revelations
I was ~ (in the press)

shocked by the (death) toll
people were ~ (climbing disaster)

shocked by the verdict
I'm ~ (jury lets businessman off)

shocked by the viciousness
police were ~ of the attack (hate crime)

shocked silence
through it all she sat in ~

shocked and appalled
we are ~ by this news (plans to shoot tigers)

shocked and baffled
the rap word was ~ by the murder (Jam Master Jay)
shocked and bewildered (m)
the ~ passengers (train crash)
shocked, embarrassed and disgusted
residents are ~ (town government)
shocked and grief-stricken (m)
~ relatives of the victims gathered (bus-truck crash)
shocked and outraged
I was ~
shocked, upset, fearful and angry
the community is ~ (hate crime)
completely shocked
I was just completely shocked
definitely shocked
when I found out, I was ~
genuinely shocked
I was ~
a little shocked
he looked ~ that I wasn’t ready to go out

feeling, emotion & effect: electricity
shocker (noun)
honeymoon shocker
couples who encounter the "~" (a snoring spouse)
feeling, emotion & effect: electricity
shocking (feeling, emotion and effect)
shocking
the mismanagement and incompetence is ~
the firing was surprising but not ~ (Notre Dame coach)
shocking crime
it was a ~ (a murder)
shocking defeat
they talked about his ~ of Lewis (boxing)
shocking news
the ~ is…
shocking scenes
~ of dead or terrified children (Chechen terrorism)
shocking story
he related a ~
shocking upset
at the conclusion of the ~ (football)
shocking and inflammatory (m)
desecration of the Koran is a ~ act
feeling, emotion & effect: electricity
shock wave

this decision has caused a ~ across the church (Methodists reject gays)
send shock waves through the market
such a drastic step would ~
sent shock waves through French politics
the poll ~ (strength of right)
sent shock waves through the American psyche
Tet ~ (Vietnam War)
sent shockwaves through the skiing world
his death ~ (Doug Coombs)
the arrests have ~ (blood doping)
sent shock waves around the globe
the dramatic plunge of the Web site ~
sent shock waves rippling
the discovery of sperm whales ~ through Nantucket
set off shock waves with his statement
he ~
feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake / explosion
effect: earthquake / explosion
shoe (a shoe can drop or fall)
shoe has fallen
now that the ~, where will he go (fired)
the other shoe
people wait for the other ~ to drop (occupation)
waited for the other shoe to drop
his colleagues ~ (investigation)
fate, fortune & chance: clothing & accessories / verb
shoe (in somebody’s shoes)
in her shoes
I’m gay, I’ve been ~
put yourself in his shoes
~ (see if from that person’s point of view)
empathy & lack of empathy: clothing & accessories
perception, perspective & point of view: clothing & accessories
shoe (a stone in the shoe)
stone in our shoe
Ecuador’s president has described him as ~ (Assange)

affliction: clothing & accessories / sensation
feeling, emotion & effect: clothing & accessories / sensation
shoestring (noun)
shoestring budget
NASA supports the ~ to find NEOs
sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: clothing & accessories
**shoot (shoot up)**

*shoot up*
- the price of gas has ~
- the price of food has ~
- the price of helium has ~

**increase & decrease: weapon / verb**

**shoot (speech)**

shoot first
- he tends to ~ and aim second (a politician)

shoot from the hip
- people who ~, who tell it like it is

**speech: weapon / verb**

**shoot (shoot back)**

shot back
- he ~, "Of course it's easier..." (to criticism)

**speech: weapon / verb**

**shooter (straight shooter)**

straight shooter
- I’m a ~, very candid

**speech: direction / weapon**

**shoot-out (noun)**

shoot-out between the two camps
- the request set off a ~ (privacy vs. right to know)

**conflict: weapon**

**shore (far shore)**

left stranded on the far shore
- his system of critical judgment was ~

**society: ground, terrain & land**

**shore (resemblance)**

shore
- Sahel is the Arabic word for "~"

shore of the Sahara Desert
- the Sahel is the ~

shore of the salt pan
- after reaching the further ~ (Netwe in Botswana)

Sahara's southern shore
- the Sahel is a band of dry grassland, the ~

**resemblance: sea**

**shore up (verb)**

shore up their (criminal) case
- the police are working to ~

shore up her confidence
- a victory would ~ (athlete)

**amelioration & renewal: infrastructure / verb**

**short-circuit (verb)**

short-circuited the process
- he ~

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

**shortcut (noun)**

shortcut to success
- athletes who take a ~ (doping)

safety shortcut
- ~s led to the oil spill

magical shortcut
- joining the military should not be a ~ to hero status

**difficulty, easiness & effort: movement / journeys & trips**

**course: journeys & trips**

**shortsighted**

shortsighted to treat
- it is ~ addicts as criminals

shortsighted in the extreme
- this policy is ~ (self-interest vs. collective good)

shortsighted and dangerous
- it would be both ~ to allow...

criticized it as shortsighted
- they ~ (a policy)

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

**shot (shot in the arm, etc.)**

shot in the arm
- it's a ~ (the encouragement of a research prize)

shot in the arm for the local economy
- this is a ~ (a basketball tournament)

real shot in the arm
- this victory is a ~ (union victory)

shot of adrenaline
- his writing is a ~ that awakens us from our apathy

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**shot (attempt)**

shot at advancement
- his son has a better ~ than he faced as a young man

shot at the job
- I thought I had a ~ (job interview)

shot at the peak
- this was their last ~ (mountaineering)

shot at the summit
- helping the other group cost the climbers a ~
shot at the title
a win would keep him on track for a ~ (boxer)

shot at the (world) championship
a ~ (boxing)

shot in Orlando
he knew he had a ~ (to win, at a championship)
title shot
give Tyson a ~ (boxing)

another shot
Tyson might get a ~ (to fight for championship)

first shot
Tomaz got his ~ at the Himalayas in 1994
good shot
I thought I had a ~ at the job (interview)

last shot
this was their ~ at the peak (mountaineering);
a ~ to right a historical wrong (reparations)
one more shot
at least give it a ~ (try)
on track for a shot
a win would keep him a ~ at the title (boxer)
give him a shot
hopefully somebody will a ~ (an athlete)
got a shot
she finally a ~ on the Tonight Show
taken a shot
at least 7 expeditions had a ~ at Gasherbrum IV
cost the climbers a shot
helping the other group a ~ at the summit

attempt: weapon
shot (chance)
one-in-a-million shot
400 times a day, a ~ will occur (probability)
fate, fortune & chance: weapon

shot (criticism)
taking shots at him
everyone is a ~ (criticism)

accusation & criticism / speech: weapon
shot (shot over the bow, etc.)
shot over the bow
it was a ~ (penalty against Facebook)

warning: boat / weapon
shot (call the shots)
calls the shots
he a ~ (boss)
calling its own shots
North Korea is a ~ and not taking orders from anybody
directing: weapon / verb
control & lack of control: verb / weapon

shot (opening shot)
opening shot of his campaign
the speech was the a ~ (politics)

conflict: weapon
shot (parting shot)
parting shot
as a ~, he said…

conflict / speech: weapon

shot (warning shot)
fired a warning shot
he a ~ at his colleagues (about priorities)

conflict / warning: weapon

shot (best shot)
best shot
the guys have given it their a ~
I have given it my ~ (spots event)
gave it my best shot
I a ~ (tried as hard as I could)

attempt: weapon
shot (shot across the bow)
fired a shot across the bow
he also fired a ~ (praised, then criticized)

conflict: boat

shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.)
shoulder the blame
he must a ~ for the loss (sports)
shoulder the (financial) burden
the government should a ~
shoulder the cost
BP must a ~ of the cleanup (oil spill)
shoulder the load
the defense is not yet ready to a ~ (sports)
shoulder the responsibility
he must a ~ now

responsibility: shoulder / verb / weight
work & duty: shoulder / verb / weight

shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone)
put your shoulder to the grindstone
you've got to a ~ (work harder)
work & duty: shoulder / weight

shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
standing shoulder to shoulder
we must make sure we are ~ (US and Britain)

unanimity & consensus: shoulder
allegiance, support & betrayal: shoulder
shoulder (a shoulder to cry on)
offered him a shoulder to cry on
she ~

empathy & lack of empathy: shoulder
shoulder (look over somebody's shoulder)
look over our shoulders
the government should not be allowed to ~

surveillance: shoulder

shoulder (oppression)
shoulders
it's definitely a weight off my ~
oppression: shoulder / weight

shoulder (fall on the shoulders)
falls on the shoulders of regular Americans
the tax burden still ~ (politics)
falls on the shoulders of BP
that ~ (responsibility)
falls on the shoulders of those
the burden ~ least able to bear it (the poor)
♦ You can't put an old head on young shoulders!

responsibility: shoulder / weight
shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
stand on the shoulders of other artists
artists ~
stand on the shoulders of giants
we ~ (achievement)
stand on the shoulders of those
we all ~ before us (tweakers of innovation)
stand on their shoulders
we are proud to ~

bases: shoulder / verb
show (performance)
all (a) show
the meeting was ~, no substance
become a show
bring your popcorn, this has ~ (congressional hearing)
♦ A commentator talking about a senate hearing used the words stunt, spectacle, and public show.

substance & lack of substance: theater
performance: theater

show (the show must go on)
show must go on
the ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: theater

show (steal the show)
stole the show
Travis Pastrana ~ (X Games / motocross)
she ~ at the MLS match (girl belts out national anthem)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / verb

showboat (verb)
showboat
he likes to ~ (an athlete)
♦ A showboat was a river steamboat on which theatrical performances were given. Show Boat was a very popular novel and musical.

attention, scrutiny & promotion: boat / verb
character & personality: boat / verb
behavior: boat / verb

show business (performance)
show business
it's just ~, it's sort of performance art (politics)

performance: theater

showcase (verb)
showcase your talents
a good resume can ~

attention, scrutiny & promotion: container / verb

showcase (noun)
showcase of (twisted) psychology
the trial has been a ~ (murder)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: container

shower (verb)
showered the two men with gifts
she ~

amount & effect: rain / verb

showman (person)
whip-smart showman
he was a ~ who loved the media attention (defense lawyer)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / person
shrapnel (noun)
emotional shrapnel
the ~ scarred both children (divorce)

affliction / feeling, emotion & effect: weapon

shred (shred of hope, etc.)
shred of comfort or hope
the film offers hardly a ~ (Network)

amount: cloth

shrine (reverence)
shrine to the Backstreet Boys
her bedroom is a poster-filled ~ (teen girl)
shrine to NASCAR
the new museum is a ~ (auto racing)

banana shrine
Ann Lovell’s house is a ~ (banana memorabilia)

poster-filled shrine
her bedroom is a ~ to the Backstreet Boys

enthusiasm / reverence: religion

shrink (downsize)
shrink its footprint
as the US military begins to ~ in Afghanistan

shrink our (leviathan) government
he wants to shrink our ~ (a politician)

shrink the military
he wants to ~ and reduce its footprint overseas

increase & decrease: size / verb

shrink (decline)
shrank
as Britain’s global influence ~ (after WWII)

decline: size / verb

shrivel (verb)
shrivel (slowly) to irrelevance
the group could ~

decline: plant / verb

shroud (noun)
shroud of mystery
a ~ surrounds him

cover: cloth

shrouded (covered)
shrouded in clouds
the top of the mountain was ~ all day (Mount Hood)

exhaust-shrouded (m)

we walked down ~ Fifth Avenue

fog-shrouded (m)
the helicopter crashed in the ~ Balsam Gap area
a passenger jet overshot a ~ runway, killing 42

snow-shrouded (m)
we walked through the ~ fields

remained shrouded
she ~ in a flowing black abaya (Doha)

configuration / cover: cloth

shrouded (concealment)
shrouded in mystery
the details are ~ (an ancient Swazi rite)
the course of infection in chimps is ~ (SIV)
he is a shadowy figure whose intentions remain ~
Lewis’ death was ~ (Lewis and Clark expedition)
the exact origins of the film are ~ (controversy)
the whole Liston story is so ~ (death of the boxer)

shrouded in secrecy
its work is ~ (Saudi Dept. of General Statistics)

shrouded in myths and mystery
the origin of the Maasai is ~

shrouded from public view
inmates’ lives are largely a mystery, since prison life is ~

concealment & lack of concealment: cloth

shrug (gesture)
responded with shrugs
Wall Street luminaries have mostly ~ and dismissals

shoulder shrug
he has kind of a ~ towards that (politician about spying)

confronting, dealing with and ignoring things: gesture

shrug off (verb)
shrug off
it’s nothing that you can just ~ (responsibility)

shrugged off his reputation
he ~ as a daring space explorer (Neil Armstrong)

shrugged it off
he ~ (a setback)

confronting, dealing with and ignoring things: gesture / verb

shun (verb)
shunned computers
he ~ for years (a journalist)

shunned the spotlight
he ~ for the rest of his life (Neil Armstrong)

shunned violence
the group has ~

shun the 21st century
they ~ (Mennonite colony in Bolivia)

**acceptance & rejection: society / verb**

**shunned**

shunned (by executives) for being (openly) gay
he was ~
shunned by the world
he felt ~

**acceptance & rejection: society**

**shut down (verb)**

shut them down
we have to spot them and ~ (Nazi websites)

**curtailment: mechanism / verb**

**shut out (verb)**

shut out
many writers have been ~

**access & lack of access: doors & thresholds / verb**

**shy (adjective)**

shy of coming
others are ~ into Pakistan (versus China)

**eagerness & reluctance: love, courtship & marriage**

**shy (shy away)**

shied away from focusing
he has not ~ on abuses in Russia (a Russian journalist)
shy away from making
the Republicans will not ~ tough proposals
shy away from speaking out
he did not ~ politically (a cleric)
shy away from (difficult) decisions
he does not ~ (a politician)
shied away from the issue
politicians have ~ (taxes)
shy away from the fact
we cannot ~ that...

**avoidance & separation: horse / verb**

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

**sibling**

hideous sibling
education’s ~: training

**relationship: family**

**sick (condition)**

sick
the bond market is ~

Sick Man

our country is the ~ of Europe

sick computer
she fixes ~ (tech worker)

sick (auto) industry
increased new-car sales would help our ~

sick institution
~s should be allowed to die (finance)

sick, failing or unsuccessful (m)
we are not dealing with a ~ industry (oil leak)

**condition & status: health & medicine**

**sick (disgusted)**

sick of lawyers
America is ~ (terrorism)

sick of war
Ugandans are ~ (Lord's Resistance Army)

sick of hearing
I'm ~ your complaints

sick of airports and plane
I am ~ (security, poor service, etc.)

sick and tired of it
frankly, I am ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**sick (other)**

sick with anxiety
I was almost ~ (teaching first class)

sick (to my stomach) with dread
I felt ~

sick with envy
one academic ~ over another

worried sick
both were ~ (parents of abducted young woman)

made me sick
her story ~ to my stomach (rape)

felt sick (to my stomach) with dread
I ~ (mother of 1 pound 15 oz baby)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**sickle (shape)**

sickle cell (m)
he has ~ anemia

**shape: blade**

**sickness (noun)**

sickness in society
there is a ~ (gun violence)

**corruption: health & medicine**
side (conflict)

two sides
the ~ were on the brink of major fighting
conflict / division & connection: direction

side (on one’s side / time)
on their side
time is ~ (negotiation and diplomacy)
allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / position / time
time: direction / position

side (on one’s side / person)
on your side
you need someone ~ (ad for lawyer)
on the side of the White House
the public is not really ~ (political issue)
allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / position

side (on the good side, etc.)
on America’s good side
if they want to be ~
social interaction: position

side (on the wrong side, etc.)
get on the wrong side of him
you don’t want to ~ (a workplace sociopath)
social interaction: position

side (dark side)
dark side
this fantastic concept has a ~ (adult family home)
people soon realized he had a ~ (bad temper)
dark side of addiction and (emotional) abuse
he had a ~
dark side to him
he had a ~ (a serial killer)

has a dark side
although regarded as genteel, cricket ~ (match fixing)
flaws & lack of flaws: light & dark

sideline (on the sideline)
sitting on the sideline
hope is not ~ or shirking from a fight (a politician)
stand on the sidelines
Russia will not ~

involvement: sports & games
center & periphery: sports & games

sideline (other)

watches from the sidelines

he now ~ (Iraqi politician)
relegated to the sidelines
the ambassador was ~ (war)

involvement: sports & games
center & periphery: sports & games

sidestep (verb)
sidestepped Congress
the President ~ and issued an order
sidestep the issue
the academy is doing its best to ~ (controversy)
sidestepped the (major) issues
the Supreme Court ~ (gerrymandering)
sidestepped the question
he ~ entirely, instead discussing citizenship (a politician)
sidestepped questions
the State Department spokesman ~ about why…

avoidance & separation: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
obstacles & impedance: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
strategy: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
subterfuge: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping

sidetracked
become sidetracked
it’s easy to lose focus and ~ with all the nonsense
got sidetracked
he ~ and ended up talking about...

progress & lack of progress: movement / journeys & trips

sideways (go sideways)
go sideways
from there, things started to ~ (political fortunes)

failure, accident & impairment: direction

siege (under siege)
under siege from a population boom
the wilderness is ~
Prime Minister is under siege
and now to the U.K., where the ~ (Brexit)

wilderness is under siege
the ~ from a population boom
world under siege
country under siege
this is a ~ (by crime / South Africa)

amount & effect: fortification / military
resistance, opposition & defeat: fortification / military
conflict: fortification / military

siege (other)
siege mentality
the ~ (Israel)
the government is showing signs of a ~ (Syria)
the generals are comfortable in their ~ (Myanmar)
siege tactics
traditional ~ used in Himalayan climbing

amount & effect: fortification / military
resistance, opposition & defeat: fortification / military

scientist (rocket scientist)
rocket scientist
you don’t need to be a ~ to explain this (criminal trial)
take a rocket scientist
it doesn’t ~ to understand what they did was illegal (police)

knowledge & intelligence: person
sift (sifting)
sifted the sources
she has ~, examining their reliability (historian)
sift for youth
job requirements in the Valley ~ (Silicon Valley)
sifted the debate for clues
observers ~ about action on carbon legislation
sifted through the returns for lessons learned
both parties ~ (election)
sift through the debris
fans have been left to ~ of a failed season (sports)
sifted through evidence
investigators ~ and interviewed survivors (arson)
sift through the (classified) materials
it could take three months to ~ (investigation)
sift through names
the computer program will help officials to ~ (crime)
sifted through many submissions
she ~ (photo competition)
sifted through the rubble
an excavator and a bulldozer ~ (earthquake)
sift through the results
search engines make you ~ for an answer
sifted through the trash
they ~, looking for anything edible or saleable
sifted down to her
the terrible facts ~ when she heard…

Sieves are found in most any kitchen. Archaeologists also employ them. Workers used sieves to search for human remains and objects from the World Trade Center collapse.

searching & discovery: tools & technology / verb
worth & lack of worth: tools & technology / verb

sifted
sifted for (fresh) clues
the new trove of material was being ~ (terrorism)
sifted for evidence
the report is ~ of subtle changes in policy (China)
sifted, correlated and analyzed
data can increasingly be ~ (online behavior)
wisely sifted
more information, ~, is usually better than less

searching & discovery: tools & technology

sigh (sigh of relief)
breathing a sigh of relief
companies are ~
leaders are ~
they are all ~ (health care)

feeling, emotion & effect: breathing / bodily process
danger: bodily process / breathing

sight (in sight)
in sight
relief is ~
gains are nowhere ~ (progress of war)
there’s no relief ~ (wildfires in California)
there is still no viable solution ~

future / proximity: eye

sight (lose sight)
lose sight that
do not ~ we are at war (government)
lose sight of the big picture
don’t ~ (advice to teachers)

consciousness & awareness: eye / verb

sight (in somebody’s sights)
in the SEC’s sights for fraud
the Wall Street firm is ~
had him in their sights
federal prosecutors ~ (criminal investigation)
have it in our sights
we ~ (merger)

target: weapon
sight (sights)

turned their sights on Joe
then they ~ (prosecutors in trial)

target: weapon

sign (warning sign)

warning sign
~s include confusion, ashy skin (heatstroke)
~ that your child may be doing drugs

warning sign of problems
a ~ ahead

warning signs of psychosis
spotted the ~ in himself

warning signs of suicide
public education about the ~

warning signs of an (impending) eruption
scientists caught the ~

warning signs for stroke
people should learn the ~

warning signs for violent behavior
17 ~

warning signs and dangers
the ~ of huffing (sniffing glue, etc.)

stroke’s warning signs
recognize ~

ample warning signs
there were ~ (psychotic breakdown)

education about the warning signs
public ~ of suicide

warning signs or red flags
there were no ~ (mass shooter)

display (any of) the warning signs
if they ~ of suicide…

know the warning signs
~ (depression)

missed the warning signs
they ~ (son's breakdown)

warning: sign, signal, symbol

sign (sign off)

signed off on the plan
he ~ (government)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: writing & spelling / verb

signal (verb)

signal a change
I don’t mean to ~ in policy (government official)

signals danger
stress is an external stimulus that ~

signals the onset
ejaculation ~ of puberty in boys

signal the presence
the green palm trees ~ of water (Egyptian desert)

signal a problem
the following 10 red flags may ~ (child development)

signal a shift
gifts can ~ in a relationship

signaled a willingness
the administration has ~ to be creative with...

signal diabetic coma
Kussmaul respirations ~ (nursing)

signaled a sucking chest wound
the bubbling blood ~ (ED)

gifts can signal
~ a shift in a relationship

palm trees signal
the green ~ the presence of water (Egyptian desert)

red flags may signal
the following 10 ~ a problem (child development)

evidence: sign, signal, symbol / verb

signal (mixed signals)

mixed signals about his plan
the President is sending ~ for the southern border

sent mixed signals
his lawyer has ~ (about what his client might do)

message: tools & technology

signal (other)

sends (multiple) signals
Iran’s action ~ (military deployment)

separate the signal from the noise
~ (when considering President Trump)

pick out the signal from the noise
trying to ~ (epidemiology)

message: sound / tools & technology
analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound / tools & technology

signature

signature
if he is alive, he’s not moving enough to create a ~

signatures of (past or present) life
organic molecules, possible ~ (Mars)

signature of our submarines
reducing the acoustic signature

signature of the vehicle
the smaller the width or track

signature of water
searching for the chemical signature

signatures of unmanned aerial vehicles
the small thermal signature

signature crusade
he made health-care reform the ~ of his career

artillery's (firing) signature
the field ~ makes it vulnerable

chemical signature
searching for the ~ of water
researchers mine the elaborate ~s of breath

chemical "signature"
DEA labs are testing the heroin to find a ~
dust signatures
rapid movement causes dramatic ~ (military)
heat signature
stationary aircraft have a considerable ~
screen exhaust systems to reduce ~ (trucks)
lane signature
increase the ~ to aid passage of larger forces
return signature
a ~ that indicates a mine (mine detector)
sand (and dust) signatures
movement is detected by ~ (military)
track signature
the smaller the width or ~ of the vehicle
aircraft signature
ensure that the ~ will be minimized
firing signature
the field artillery's ~ makes it vulnerable
acoustic signature
reducing the ~ of our submarines
acoustical signature
the V-22 Osprey flies with a lower "~"
considerable (heat) signature
stationary aircraft have a ~
criminal signature
he left his ~ at each crime scene (serial killer)
dramatic (dust) signatures
rapid movement causes ~ (military)
electronic signature
it has no ~ (an air-defense weapon);
the Tactical Operations Center has little ~
infra-red signature
reducing ~s is a passive anti-air consideration
metallic signature
locate mines by a slight ~ (AN/PSS-12)
operational signature
its ~ was aggressiveness (L.A. police)
slight (metallic) signature
locate mines by a ~ (AN/PSS-12)
small (thermal) signature
the ~s of unmanned aerial vehicles
thermal signature
the small ~s of unmanned aerial vehicles
track signature
the smaller the width or ~ of the vehicle
visual signature
markers provide commanders with a ~
thermal and optical signatures
friendly and enemy ~
footprint or signature
they don't have a ~ (terrorists)
detected by (sand and dust) signatures
movement is ~ (military)
evidence: writing & spelling

signpost

signpost as to how bad
his death was a ~ things were (Liston, boxing, the mob)
signposts of my childhood
I pass the ~
signposts of (rulers') authority
Baghdad's bridges are ~
signpost on a road
the Balfour Declaration was a ~ heading towards a cliff
evidence: sign, signal, symbol
silent (fall silent)
fall silent
the factory will ~
starting, going, continuing & ending: sound

silo (academic silos, etc.)
academic silos
the school wants to break down ~
silo-busters
leaders should be ~

* This word is nicely written about in "The Vocabularist: How did 'silo' get to mean something else?" by The Vocabularist, BBC, 30 June 2015.

Isolation & remoteness: farming & agriculture
division & connection: farming & agriculture
siloed

siloed
Jobs had insisted that departments were ~ (secrecy)
siloed off
I’m kind of ~, our studios are in Brooklyn...

isolation & remoteness: farming & agriculture
division & connection: farming & agriculture

silver (speech)
silver-tongued (m)
a ~ recruiting sergeant

speech: materials & substances
silver-tongued
silver-tongued (m)
a ~ recruiting sergeant

speech: materials & substances / tongue

simmer (verb)
simmered with resentment
he ~

activity: heating water / temperature / verb / water
initiation: heating water / temperature / verb / water

simmering (activity)
simmering resentment
~ blossomed into warfare (two politicians)
long-simmering debate
the ~ over whether dinosaurs...
long-simmering dispute
his ~ with...
long-simmering event
this ~ in our history
long-simmering tension
~ between the private university and the town
long-simmering (ethnic) tensions
~ have erupted into violence
long-simmering (racial) tensions
the altercation caused ~ to erupt

activity: heating water / temperature / water
initiation: heating water / temperature / water

sink (destroy)
sank the (prosecution's) case
it was the torpedo that ~ (forensics)

destruction: boat / sea / verb

sink (behavior)
sunk to a new low
she has ~
sinking lower and lower
broadcasters are ~ to get higher ratings

behavior: direction / verb

sink (put)
sink (a lot of) money into their kids' sports
adults ~

throwing, putting & planting: water / verb

sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
sank into a coma
he ~

consciousness & awareness: direction

sink (sink into debt, etc.)
sinking (deeper) into debt
I was ~ (now homeless)

swim or sink
we are going to ~ together (revitalizing Detroit / 2010)

survival, persistence & endurance: direction / water

sink (sink into despair, etc.)
sink into despair
she was starting to ~ (losing soccer game)

heart sank
my ~... (news of murder of boy)

spirits sank
my ~

feeling, emotion & effect: direction / verb

sink (sink into the mud, etc.)
sinking into the mud
the US is ~ of defeat (Iraqi spokesman on war)
sinking into the mud
the US is ~ of defeat (Iraqi spokesman on war)

failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb

sink (sink into obscurity, etc.)
sank into obscurity
Petra ~ about 1000 AD

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction / verb

sink (decline)
sinks into melodrama
the story ~
sank fast
United ~ after City went ahead (2019 soccer game)

stocks sank
blue-chip ~ Friday (stock market)

define: direction / verb

sinkhole (noun)
sinkhole of shame and self-hatred
stuttering leaves behind an ever-deepening ~
define: ground, terrain & land

sink in (verb)
sink it
it took two days for it to ~
if you let that ~, that’s an alarming statistic (police suicide)

absorption & immersion: verb / water

sinking (sinking feeling, etc.)
sinking feeling
I had a ~ that…

feeling, emotion & effect: direction

sink or swim
sink or swim type
it was a ~ type of thing (new bandmember)

survival, persistence & endurance: water

siphon (verb)
siphon Republicans away
a “centrist” might ~ from Trump (elections)
direct: verb / water

siren (siren call / song)
siren song of bargains
the ~ is too irresistible to avoid (outlet malls)
siren call of booze
they cannot resist the ~ (alcoholics)
siren call of fads
don’t give in to the ~ (tattoos you can live with)
heed the siren call
her book is for all who ~ of the water (swimming)

seduced by the siren song
they’ve been ~ ”college for everyone”

attraction & repulsion: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

siren (other)
siren
this is the age of Viagra, and Mr. Trink was its ~
siren-voiced (m)
a ~ singer

attraction & repulsion: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

sister (big sister)
big sister
I was like a mother hen to them, I was like ~ (skateboarder)

help & assistance: family

sister (relationship)
sister
our ~s the plants, our brothers the animals (a Navajo)
sister city
Asheville’s ~, Saumur, France

sister event
Bike Week and its ~, Biketoberfest (Daytona Beach)
sister organizations
he described them as “~” (terrorist groups)
sister publications
the Los Angeles Times and its ~
sister ship
the HMS Queen Elizabeth and her ~, HMS Prince of Wales

sister virus
Marburg’s ~: Ebola (African hemorrhagic fevers)

ugly sister
eugenics and its ~, eugenic euthanasia (Nazis)

three sisters (m)
~ soup, built from beans, squash and corn

relationship: family
person: family

sister (the Seven Sisters, etc.)
Two Sisters
we sailed to the ~ (Saudi islands off of Jizan)

Three Sisters
we could see the ~ (mountains in KwaZulu-Natal)

Seven Sisters
the Pleiades are often called the ~ (stars)
Assam is one of the ~ (states in India)

Seven Sisters (m)
the ~ Waterfall has 7 separate streams (Norway)

Roaring Sister
the ~ is a rock on the Western Cape of South Africa

proper name: family

Sisyphean (adjective)
Sisyphean task
it is a ~ (creating a database)

difficulty, easiness & effort: allusion

sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.)
sat in a suburb
his house ~ called...

**fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**sit (sit on one's hands)**

sat on their hands
they ~ on the sidelines (politicians)

**sit (back) on our hands**
what are we supposed to do, ~ when we see there may be problems

**action, inaction & delay: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**sit by (verb)**

sit idly by
I couldn’t ~ (need to take action against barking dogs)

**action, inaction & delay: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**sit down (verb)**

sit down with the opposition
we need to ~
sitting down with the Taliban
we shouldn’t be ~

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / table / verb**

**sit-down (other)**

sit-down with the child
have a serious ~ (a serious talk)
serious sit-down
have a ~ with the child (a serious talk)

**position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / table**

**sitting duck**

sitting duck
my brother’s a ~ (snitch in prison)
the convoys are ~s (Pakistan)

**protection & lack of protection: animal / bird**

danger: animal / bird

**skein (entanglement)**

messy skein
he was already tangled in a ~ of indictments

**involvement: cloth**

**complexity: cloth**

**skeletal (adjective)**

skeletal
state services for victims are ~ (sex / North Dakota)

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**skeleton (skeleton in the closet)**

skeleton
who knows what ~s he’s got in his closet (troubled)
skeletons in our closet
I knew we had ~ (newspaper’s lack of coverage of…)
skeletons in its (Communist) closet
Poland exhumes ~
skeletons in the closet
all the ~ are spilling out (Turkey)
he has a few ~ that he doesn’t want you to know about

**skeletons (in the closet) are spilling out**

**newly revealed skeletons**
~ joined old ones in his closet (a politician)
exhumes skeletons
Poland ~ in its Communist closet

♦ “If you autopsy anybody’s personal life deep enough, everybody’s got skeletons.” (A police chief under fire.)

**concealment & lack of concealment: skeleton**

**skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)**

**skeleton (substance)**

skeleton
this is just a ~, you need to flesh it out (essay)

**sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**skeleton (resemblance)**

skeleton
she was skin and bones, a ~
charred skeleton
all that was left of the boat was a ~ (burned to waterline)

**resemblance: skeleton / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**sketchy (adjective)**

a little bit sketchy
details remain ~ at the moment (a criminal assault)

**certainty & uncertainty: picture**

**skewer (verb)**

skewered the powerful with his cartoons
he ~ (an editorial cartoonist)
skewer (office) life and (business) norms
modern literary fiction often attempts to ~

**accusation & criticism:** cooking / verb
**affliction:** cooking / verb
**speech:** cooking / verb

**skewered**
skewered in an (attack) ad
he has been ~ for speaking French (a US politician)

**accusation & criticism:** cooking
**affliction:** cooking
**speech:** cooking

**skin (feeling)**
got under his skin
  I knew I ~ (at a trial)
got under my skin
  she really ~
made my skin crawl
  it ~ (disgust)

**feeling, emotion & effect:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone

**skin (jump out of one's skin)**
jump out of my skin
  loud noises make me ~

**feeling, emotion & effect:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone
**hyperbole:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

**skin (save one's skin)**
save their skins
  executives sold their stock, hoping to ~ (Enron)
save your skin
  it's lucky they're taking you to the boss, that may ~

**survival, persistence & endurance:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb
**euphemism:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

**skin (outside)**
skin
  someone had tended to its guts, if not its ~ (a rifle)
mango skin
  the ~ ripping away from the fruit's flesh…

**orientation:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone

**skin-deep**
skin-deep
  the reforms have only been ~

**extent & scope:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone
**substance & lack of substance:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone
**appearance & reality:** skin, muscle, nerves & bone

**skirmish**
skirmishes
  it's important to know which ~ to join and which to ignore (bureaucracy)
budget skirmish
  the budget is subject to annual ~s

**conflict:** military

**skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)**
skirted the issue
  he ~

**avoidance & separation:** clothing & accessories / verb
**confronting, dealing with & ignoring things:** clothing & accessories / verb

**skirt (configuration)**
skirt Xinjiang and Tibet
  the Kunlun Mountains ~

**configuration:** clothing & accessories / verb

**sky (the sky can fall)**
sky
  the ~ is not falling (fears of attacks on Internet)

**fate, fortune & chance:** atmosphere / sky

**sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)**
a clear blue sky
  the attack on the politician did not come out of ~

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

**sky-high**
sky-high
  fans were ~ after the win
  emotions were ~ (at a murder trial)
sky high
  costs are ~

**sky-high costs**

**extent & scope:** atmosphere / sky

**skyrocket (to attention, etc.)**
skyrocketed onto the (national political) scene
  he ~ in 2018

**attention, scrutiny & promotion:** direction / rocket / sky / verb

**skyrocket (increase)**
population has skyrocketed
  in Europe's prisons, where the Islamic ~
price (of helium) is skyrocketing
  the ~
profits skyrocket
corporate ~ even as the economy remains stalled

unemployment is skyrocketing
the economy is crashing, ~ (politics)

increase & decrease: direction / rocket / sky / verb

skyscraper (tall building)
earthquake-resistant skyscraper
architects design ~s

4,000 skyscrapers
a city that already has ~, double New York (Shanghai)

size: atmosphere / sky

skyway
Cherohala Skyway
the ~ connects western North Carolina and Tennessee
tunnel and skyway (m)
Montreal is known for its ~ network
Toronto and Minneapolis are known for their ~ networks

route: atmosphere / sky

slack (noun)
slack
she deserves a little ~

behavior: rope
constraint & lack of constraint: rope

slam (verb)
slammed the politician for his hatred and bigotry
he ~

accusation & criticism: force / verb / violence
hitting, slamming & lashing: verb / violence
speech: verb / violence

slam-dunk
slam-dunk for him
this is no ~ (a tough boxing match)

slam-dunk for republicans
this should have been a ~ (election)

certainty & uncertainty: basketball / sports & games
difficulty, easiness & effort: basketball / sports & games

slap (slap in the face, etc.)
slap to the prosecutor
his words were a ~ (judge orders new trial)

slap in the face
his offer was a ~

slap in the face to Chicagoans
his actions were a ~ (false accusation of hate crime)

slap in the face to the female students
it was a ~ (who had been molested at USC)
Do a favor for a beggar and you'll be his slave!
Teach me one thing, and I am your slave. (Proverb said in Saudi Arabia.)

dependency: person
sledding (tough sledding)
tough sledding
it's been ~, but... (progress of war)
difficulty, easiness & effort: snow & ice
sleep (noun)
awakening from (its winter) sleep
nature is ~
resemblance: sleep
sleep (put something to sleep)
put woke to sleep
it's time to ~
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: sleep / verb
sleeping
sleeping majority
I was one of the ~, but now I have woken up (Egypt)
consciousness & awareness: sleep
sleepwalking
sleepwalking into a level of risk
it's ~ you don’t realize you have (funds cut to Navy)
consciousness & awareness: sleep
sleepy
sleepy backwater
oil transformed Khartoum from a ~ to a modern city
sleepy community
the ~ of...
sleepy oasis
Korla, once a ~, is undergoing an oil boom (Xinjiang)
sleepy (little farm) town
a ~
activity: sleep
sleight of hand
linguistic sleights of hand
governments propagandize citizens with ~
subterfuge: magic
slender
slender chance
there was a ~ she would recover (sick)
slender victory
Uruguay’s ~ over Saudi Arabia ensured that...

size: fatness & thinness
slice (noun)
slices of the market
in the ceaseless quest to stake out bigger ~
amount: blade / knife
slice (road slices, etc.)
slices through the land
where a creek ~ near the house
slices through the heart of the forest
the Cuiabá-Santarém road, which ~
road slices
the ~ through thick pine and spruce forest
resemblance: blade / knife / verb
slide (noun)
slide to perdition
give socialism a foothold, and nothing can arrest the ~
decline: direction / movement
slide (verb)
slid into a depression
she ~ of extraordinary depth and duration
slide to perdition
give socialism a foothold, and nothing can arrest the ~
decline: direction / movement / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: direction / movement / verb
slim (small)
slim majority
Republicans have a ~ in the Senate
size: fatness & thinness
slip (verb)
slipping
gun sales have been ~ under Trump
slipped 7 percent
murders ~ last year
decline: direction / verb
increase & decrease: direction / verb
slip (permission slip)
permission slip
the US does not need a ~ to defend its security
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: school & education
slog (verb)
slogged a difficult road
the team ~ to qualify for the tournament
difficulty, easiness & effort: walking, running & jumping / verb
slog (long hard slog, etc.)
easy slog
this is not going to be an ~
lifelong slog
learn a language, getting there needn’t be a ~
(advertisement)
	long hard slog
the fight will be a ~ (war)
the candidates have a ~ to go (election)
the election campaign will be a ~
it may be a ~ to bring about regime change (in Venezuela)
tough slog
it was a ~ to get that done (legislation)
difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping
slope (on a slippery slope)
on a slippery slope
she is ~ (celebrity bad behavior)
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
slope (slippery slope)
slope
the ~ is slippery in both directions (censorship)
slippery slope towards democracy
this was the start of the ~ (South Africa)
slippery-slope argument
the ~ (relating to precedents)
fear of a slippery slope
the ~ was pervasive (military intervention)
start of the slippery slope
this was the ~ towards democracy (South Africa)
push the state down a slippery slope
this will ~ of prosecuting thoughts (versus acts)
fate, fortune & chance: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
starting, going, continuing & ending: ground, terrain & land / mountains & hills
slow (adjective)
slow to ground
the FAA was ~ the 737 MAX (after two crashes)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: movement
speed: movement
action, inaction & delay: movement
time: movement
slug (slug something out)
slugged it out
Obama and Clinton ~ in the primaries
conflict: boxing / verb
sluggish (adjective)
sluggish
growth has been ~
tourism is still ~

sales were ~ in July

hiring remains ~
economies range from ~ to staggering (downturn)

sluggish economy
everyone is feeling the effects of the ~

he found himself bedeviled by the ~ (president)

sluggish growth
the report shows ~ (economy)

sluggish pace
the economy is improving, but at a ~

sluggish response
the city will investigate the ~ to the storm

remain sluggish
economies in the US and Europe also ~

remains sluggish
hiring ~
speed: animal / movement
condition & status: health & medicine
slumber (noun)
shakes people from their slumber
I hope this film ~ (Spike Lee)
consciousness & awareness: sleep
slump (verb)
growth slumped
economic ~
decline: direction / verb
slut (enthusiasm)
photo slut
~s, surfers going big on small waves for the money
stats slut
he abhors the "~s" (a football analyst)
eagerness & reluctance: sex
enthusiasm: sex
small-minded
small-minded
she's ~
mind: size
extent & scope: size

smart (verb)

smarting from the last couple of weeks
people are still ~ (a bruising political battle)

feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / verb

smart (technology)

smart bomb
~ are less likely to go astray
~s used to be guided by a laser
~s hit the target, but rely on good intelligence
~s and stealth technology won Gulf War I
"brilliant" bombs are the ~s of the future
all-weather ~s are guided by satellites
JDAM ~s are guided by inertial guidance and GPS
JDAM ~s are unaffected by clouds, dust, smoke
the stock of satellite-guided ~s is depleted

smart card
~s that store data have been routinely cracked

smart device
~s—smart PCs, smart cell phones...

smart dust
"~"—tiny digital sensors, strewn around the globe
~ would monitor, measure and understand the world
~ remains a ways off
~ has proved impossible because sensors need power

smart fuse
a "~" for penetrating warheads uses an accelerometer

smart house
~s could monitor the elderly
~ could monitor those with chronic conditions

smart mine
dumb mines versus ~s (self-destruct / self-deactivate)

smart munitions
targeting of assets for attack by ~ (UAVs)

smart tractors
farmers could use it to keep tabs on autonomous ~ (5G)

smart elevators and window shades
complaints about ~ (new office building)

"smart" licenses and visas
~ that incorporate anti-counterfeiting chips

smart crosswalks
~ flash overhead warnings when you step off the curb

smart ID card
soldiers will be issued with ~s

smart and scatterable (m)
~ mines and their delivery vehicles (military)

from dumb to smart to brilliant (m)
~ bombs (military)

♦ "We call it a smartie, and her name is Ripley." (SpaceX vice president Hans Koenigsmann, about the dummy named Ripley sent into space on March 2, 2019.)

knowledge & intelligence: mechanism
ability & lack of ability: mechanism

smear (verb)

smear at will
attack groups can ~ and do it anonymously (politics)

smear my reputation
she tried to ~

smeared (Chicago’s) reputation
he has ~ (false hate-crime accusation)

reputation: mark / verb
flaws & lack of flaws: mark / verb
speech: mark / verb

smear (noun)

smear campaign
the allegations are part of a ~ by opponents
the ~ is based on unjustified and groundless allegations
there is no evidence of a ~ (against a film)

smear on conservatives
the Right condemned the report as a ~ (hate groups)

inflammatory and misleading smears
he described warnings over US farming practices as ~

reputation: mark
flaws & lack of flaws: mark
speech: mark

smell (suspicion)

smell right
something doesn’t ~ (suspicion)

smells bad
something ~ (suspicion)

suspicion: smell

smell (evidence)

smell of disaster
it began to ~ (a public-relations offensive)

smell an upset
they began to ~ (a team playing well)

evidence: smell

smile (verb)

smiled on him
Lady Luck has ~

smiled on Modi
but fortune ultimately ~ and his colleague

smiled on me
God has ~
fate ~ that day
smile on the Winter Olympics
Mother Nature is finally starting to ~

smiled on (affirmative action) programs
he has ~ from the bench (a judge)

smiled on us
I think today Mother Nature ~ (NASA launch)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol / verb
judgment: face / gesture / sign, signal, symbol / verb

smitten (effect)

smitten by the song
I was ~

smitten by birding
he was ~

feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / weapon

smitten

smitten by polio
he was ~

affliction: fist / weapon
hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / weapon

smoke (evidence)

smoke
where there is ~, there is fire

evidence / substance & lack of substance: fire

smoke (smoke clears)

smoke has cleared
now that the ~, investigators… (stock-market plunges)

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: fire

smoke and mirrors

smoke and mirrors
this is ~, nothing has changed (politics)
he has accused ministers of using “~” over its plan...

smoke and mirrors deal
the government has done ~ with the energy companies

subterfuge: theater

smoke out (verb)

smoke out the opposition
he is trying to ~

pursuit, capture & escape: fire / verb

smokescreen

smokescreen
his aggressiveness is just a ~

subterfuge: fire

smoking gun

smoking gun
the letter is a ~ that shows…

find a smoking gun
prosecutors could not ~

finds no smoking gun
he ~, no evidence that… (a historian)

provides the smoking gun
Madagascar ~ for… (impacts from asteroids or comets)

turn up a "smoking gun"
months of searching failed to ~ (UN / Iraq)

evidence: weapon

smolder (verb)

smolders
the conspiracy theory still ~ today (spy issue)

tensions smolder
racial and gender ~ (hiring firefighters)

activity: fire / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: fire / verb

smooth (verb)

smooth over their frictions
Britain and Pakistan hope to ~

smooth over its (rocky) relations
the Chinese military wants to ~ with the Pentagon

smooth (capitalism’s) rough edges
her policies aim to ~ (a progressive)

smooth relations
officials hope to ~ with Beijing

smooth the road
there is no way to ~ to assimilation (forget racial past)

amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness / verb

smooth (speech)

smooth talker
he is a ~

speech: taste

smooth (character)

smooth and self-assured
he is ~ (a politician)

character & personality: materials & substances

smooth (lack of flaws)

smooth ride
the team's season has not been a ~ (sports)

smooth transfer
he seeks to ensure a ~ of power to his son
smooth transition  
the new administration has made a ~

smooth and speedy  
we should encourage a ~ transition to democracy

flaws & lack of flaws: hardness & softness

smorgasbord (noun)

smorgasbord of sound  
the musical festival offers a virtually limitless ~ (SXSW)

smorgasbord of meetings  
the annual gathering is a ~ (UN general assembly)

biggest smorgasbord  
it’s the ~ on TV (Olympics coverage)

alternatives & choices: food & drink  
amount: food & drink

smother (amount and effect)

smothered her (little) boy with love  
she ~ and attention

smothered the trio in hugs and kisses  
her grandmother ~

amount & effect: breathing / verb

smother (cover)

smothered the grenade with his body  
he shouted a warning and ~ (combat)

smothered the ball  
the goalkeeper ~ to prevent the own goal (soccer)

sand dunes smother  
~ empty homes (desertification / northwest China)

cover: breathing / verb

smother (oppress)

smothered me with their rules  
they ~ (angry teen about her parents)

campaign to smother  
an unsuccessful ~ separatist ambitions

oppression: breathing / verb

snag (noun)

technical snag  
a ~ aborted the test launch (satellite rocket)

hit a snag  
negotiations ~ over…

♦ "Fully to realize the marvelous precision required in laying the great steamer in her marks in that murky waste of water, one should know that not only must she pick her intricate way through snags and blind reefs, and then shave the head of the island so closely as to brush the overhanging foliage with her stern, but at one place she must pass almost within arm’s reach of a sunken and invisible wreck that would snatch the hull timbers from under her if she should strike it, and destroy a quarter of a million dollars’ worth of steam-boat and cargo in five minutes, and maybe a hundred and fifty human lives into the bargain.” (Life on the Mississippi by Mark Twain.)

obstacles & impedance: river

snail mail

“snail” mail  
electronic mail versus ~

speed: animal / snail

snail (at a snail’s pace)

moving at a snail’s pace  
queues are ~ (Saudi Passports Department)

speed: animal / snail

snail (snail’s pace / other)

snail’s pace of the investigation  
the ~ (murder)

snail’s pace of (scientific) publishing  
the ~

speed: animal / snail

snake (character)

snake  
the guy was a ~ (got her in trouble)

you don’t play with ~s and not expect to get bit

character & personality: animal / person / snake  

person: animal / snake

snake (a trail can snake)

snake downward  
the trails ~ (public cave)

snaked down the streets  
lines of voters ~ outside polling places (Lusaka)

snakes between Boston and Cambridge  
the Charles River ~

snake through the wilderness  
logging roads ~

snaked through the long hallways  
lines of people ~ (congressional hearing)

snakes (more than) 300 miles  
the Trans-Ecuadorean pipeline ~

snakes from Lago Agrio to the Pacific  
the Trans-Ecuadorean pipeline ~

trails snake  
the ~ downward (public cave)

pipeline snakes  
the Trans-Ecuadorean ~ more than 300 miles

movement: animal / snake / verb

resemblance: animal / snake / verb

fictive motion: animal / snake / verb
snake (snake-bit)

snake-bit
I’m ~ (Spike Less on losing two Oscars to “driving” movies)
♦ This means having bad luck, bad fortune. There are many snakes, but few people get bitten.

fate, fortune & chance: animal / snake

snake pit

media snake pit
Jump into the ~
♦ Psychiatric hospitals were referred to as snake pits for their chaos, distress and horror.

environment: animal / mental health / snake
conflict: animal / snake
danger: animal / snake

snap (verb)

snapped
he had a short fuse and he just ~ (troubled veteran)

failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances / verb

snapshot

snapshot of the epidemic
the studies were the first to provide a ~ in the US

coloration: picture

snare (verb)

snared real people
his website had ~ (fake news)

involvement: hunting / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb

snarl (verb)

snarled travel
the storm ~ (snow)

obstacles & impedance: rope / verb

snarl (speech)

snarled
“Shut up!” he ~

speech: animal / verb
sound: animal / verb

snatch (verb)

snatched defeat from victory
athletes who have ~

taking & removing: hand / verb
scandal has snowballed
the ~

increase & decrease: snow & ice / verb

snowball (snowball effect)
snowball effect
entitlements like these always seem to have a ~
created a snowball effect
the media and public fascination with serial murder ~

increase & decrease: snow & ice

snowflake (person)
targets snowflakes
the ad campaign ~ (British Army)
+ A similar term to snowflake is teacup. In the old days, such people were compared to plants: a shrinking violet; a pansy; a wallflower. The modern update on that is orchid (versus a dandelion).

color

snowflake (person)

strength & weakness: hardness & softness / person / snow & ice

person: snow & ice

snow (person)

snuff (verb)

snuffed the rally with an interception
they ~ (football)

snuffed out the movement
a series of high-profile arrests soon ~ (in Syria)

curtailment: fire / verb
destruction: fire / verb

soaked

sun-soaked (m)
the highway runs along ~ Pacific beaches (Hawaii)

absorption & immersion: water

soak up (verb)

soaked up the sun
she ~

absorption & immersion: verb / water

soap opera (noun)

soap opera
it’s the greatest ~ of the year (NBA Draft)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater
feeling, emotion & effect: theater

soar (verb)

career was soaring
his ~ (an academic)

rents are soaring
~ (in France)

sales and profits soared
~ (a drug company)

toll soars
China landslide death ~

increase & decrease: direction / flying & falling / verb

sober (verb)

sobered voters about the costs
Iraq has ~ of big wars

feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol / verb

sober (adjective)

sober assessment
the panel has issued a ~ of National Defense Strategy

sober reminder
this report is a ~ of the expensive legacy costs of operating nuclear powered submarines

feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol

sobering

sobering figures
these are ~

feeling, emotion & effect: alcohol

soft (soft on crime, etc.)

soft on Australia
he does not want to be painted as ~ (Indonesian politics)

soft on illegal immigration
he is ~

strength & weakness: hardness & softness

softball (noun)

softball question
TV interviewers lobbed ~s at him

difficulty, easiness & effort: sports & games

soften (verb)

soften the blow
the program intends to ~ of the economic downturn

soften their image
the rebels are on a mission to ~

soften the impact
the military is trying to ~ (families greet coffins)

soften the law
lawmakers have tried to ~ (marijuana)

softened her stance
she has ~ on the issue

attenuation: hardness & softness / verb
soften (speech)
soften his tone
the president appeared to ~ (tariffs)
softened their tone
the US and China have ~ (dispute)

speech: hardness & softness / verb
amelioration & renewal: hardness & softness / verb

soft-hearted (adjective)
soft-hearted woman
she's a ~
character & personality: heart
heart: hardness & softness

soil (fertile soil)
fertile soil for the cultivation
Pakistan has proved to be ~ of terrorist activity
growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant

soil (on one's soil)
on its soil
the government will protect foreign diplomats ~

soldier (soldier on)
soldiered on
she and her mother ~ (in poverty, after divorce)

starting, going, continuing & ending / work & duty: military / verb

survival, persistence & endurance: military / verb
resiliency: military / verb

solid (adjective)
solid evidence
there is no ~ that...
solid bet
investing in gold is not a ~
solid footing
the company is on ~ (profitable, etc.)
solid foundation
terrorism has weakened the ~ of our democracy
solid performance
she had a ~ (an athlete)
solid (backup) plan
the team has a ~
solid results
the bank has shown ~
rock solid
the case law is ~ (suit should fail)
rock-solid (m)
their ~ case began to crumble (murder)

look solid
the economies of Southeast Asia ~

remain solid
the ties between our two countries ~

strength & weakness: materials & substances
substance & lack of substance: materials & substances
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances / equilibrium & stability

Solomonic (adjective)
Solomonic choice
firefighters had to make a ~ (choose a building to save)

Solomonic compromise
supporters of the decision regarded it as a ~ (politics)

Solomonic decision
the three-judge panel made a ~

Solomonic solution
she suggested a ~
they fear her ~ will flood both sides (raising sluice gages)

♦ In 1941, during the blitz, London firefighters had to make a Solomonic choice: save the House of Commons or Westminster Hall next door. They chose to save Westminster Hall.

judgment: allusion / Bible / religion

soothe (sensation)
soothe concerns
what he said did not ~

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine / sensation / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine / sensation / verb

soothsayer (person)
soothsayer
I’m not a ~, I don’t have a crystal ball
there were some ~s who were saying... (election results)

market soothsayers
TV allowed the ~ to reach a voracious audience
media soothsayers
all these ~ are crazy (sports)

stock market soothsayer
secrets of the ~ (David Schwartz)

future: magic / person / religion
person: magic / religion

sore (affliction)
running sore
Bloody Sunday became a ~ in the body politic (Ireland)

affliction: health & medicine
sore (sensation)
sore loser
he's just a ~ (boxer complains of decision)
sore spot
regional rivalries are a particular ~ (Central Asia)
sore subject
money can be a ~ in any relationship
sensation: skin, muscle, nerves & bone
feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone

sort out (analyze)
sort it (all) out
joining us to ~ is our media correspondent
analysis, interpretation & explanation: mechanism

soul (identity)
soul
every place has its ~ (Solovetsky Islands)
soul of the Democratic Party
she has won a critical battle for the ~ (anti-Semitic Somali)

heart and soul
racing has lost its ~ (death of popular driver)
he was the ~ of our team (mountaineering)
he poured his ~ into the game (Larry Bird / basketball)

hearts and souls
their ~ are in it (NASA scientists)
sell my soul to the devil
I'd ~ for…

identity & nature: religion

soul-searching
soul-searching
after much ~ we decided…
I did some ~, it was a wakeup call to me (athlete)
there will be ~ (boxing champ loses in shock defeat)
career-oriented soul-searching
he did some ~
national soul-searching
the Holocaust memorial is the result of years of ~

analysis, interpretation & explanation: religion

sound (perception)
sound of that
I don't like the ~

perception, perspective & point of view: sound

sound (measure)
sounds (dark comedic) depths
the play ~

measurement: verb / water
extent & scope: verb / water

sound (solid)
scientically sound
their theory isn't ~ (about autism and the brain)

flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

strength & weakness: materials & substances

soup (mixture)
soup of pollutants
the fish live in a ~ (tomcod in New York)
mixture: food & drink

soup (alphabet soup)
alphabet soup
he dislike the alphabet soup (LGBTQ+)

alphabet soup of choices
we have the ~ (federal organizations and their initialisms)

alphabet-soup designation
the ~ for sexual minorities

mixture: food & drink / letters & characters

sour (verb)
souring on the (administration's) handling
polls show the public is ~ of the catastrophe
soured many on service
a variety of things has ~ (military reservists)
soured investors
uncertainty over legislation has further ~ (Mexico)
soured relations
the incident ~ between the two countries
sour the relationship
raising the question of human rights could ~ (diplomacy)

relationship soured
but the ~ (between two politicians)
relationship has soured
the ~ between museums and archaeologists

corruption: food & drink / taste / verb

sour (adjective)
sour taste
the whole experience left a ~ in my mouth
gone sour
her perfect marriage had ~
turn sour
when did the relationship ~

turned sour
his life in England ~
went sour
a series of business ventures ~

corruption: food & drink / taste
sour (personality)
sour person
she’s a ~
character & personality: food & drink / taste
south (go south)
went south
that’s when things ~ (runaway locomotive)
things ~ pretty quickly
crop prices ~ (worries of trade war)
the economy ~ and jobs dried up
something ~ in the prosecutor’s case, perhaps a witness
went (seriously) south
something ~ in the prosecution’s case (all charges dropped)
going south
she knew things were ~ when he locked the door (rape)

failure, accident & impairment: direction
sow (verb)
sowed farmlands and fields with mines
combatants ~ (Balkans)
sowed violence across the region
extremists have ~ (Northern Caucasus)
sow chaos
Assad's fall could ~ in Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon
sowed (such) confusion
he and his legal advisers ~ that… (a general)
sowed discord
the act ~ that lasted for years
sow doubt
a psy-op to ~ and defeatism (military)
sow fear
they use terrorism to ~ and undermine security
snipers ~ (combat)
sowed fear
the killings have ~ and apprehension (sniper murders)
sow goodwill
you can ~ by referring them to competitors (business)
sow instability
the drug war has helped ~, particularly in Bolivia
the insurgents seek to ~ (Iraq)
sow the seeds
enforced potty sitting can ~ of rebellion (toddlers)
sowing the seeds
he could be ~ of a new disaster (price control)
sown the seeds
this successes may have ~ of his demise (business)
sow terror
shooting and carjacking rampage ~ through city (news)
sowed fear and apprehension
the killings have ~ around the area (sniper)
sow fear and distress and anger
terrorists know that headlines ~
“He who sows the wind shall reap the whirlwind.”

creation & transformation: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
growth & development: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
sown (planted)
sown in (such) a field
antipersonnel mines should not be ~ until…

throwing, putting & planting: farming & agriculture / plant / verb
sown (mine-sown, etc.)
mine-sown (m)
a ~ strip of earth (border)
configuration: farming & agriculture / plant
spaghetti (snarl)
spaghetti plots
these are the ~ (storm approaches cast / weather report)
configuration: food & drink
spar (verb)
spared over education and immigration
the candidates ~ (politics)
conflict: boxing / verb
spare (a minute to spare, etc.)
10 minutes to spare
he called the attack off with ~ (President Trump)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: money / verb
time: money / verb
spark (verb)
sparked attention
the “frog vaccine” has ~ among foreign researchers
sparked a (land) boom
the lure of cheap homesteads and easy money ~
sparked a (wild) celebration
his winning penalty kick ~ (soccer)
spark conflicts
fences could ~ over access to water (nomads)
sparked his imagination
reading science fiction ~
spark (media) interest
  parental kidnappings do not ~ (of kids)

sparked a (major) inquiry
  her death ~

spark interest
  these clouds continue to ~ (Noctilucent Clouds)

spark a new interest
  sometimes learning will ~

sparked an outcry
  his remarks ~ (racism)

sparked outrage
  the killing ~ around the world
  the shooting was captured on video, and ~ across the city (Chicago)

sparking outrage
  the Israeli raid is ~ around the world

sparked a recall
  ignition problems ~ (automobile company)

sparked resentment
  Chinese investment has ~ in Karachi (Sind)

sparked an (intense) search
  her disappearance ~ that ended when…

sparked an uproar
  his dismissal ~ on campus (popular coach Bobby Knight)

spark (widespread) violence
  elections could ~ (Ivory Coast)

sparked a war
  the border dispute ~ (Eritrea and Ethiopia)

sparked a wildfire
  a single protest ~ (1848)

sparks the wildfire
  Virginia will be the match that ~ of change (politics)

spark or reinforce
  these stores can ~ the "Hillbilly" stereotype

initiation: fire / verb

spark (noun)

spark for his comeback
  the rivalry was the ~ (a rapper)

small spark
  the clash showed how a ~ could ignite another war

sparks erupted
  those ~ into a bonfire of civic rage

sparks flew
  they had different ideas about money, and ~ (a couple)

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

put that spark in me
  he ~ that made me want to be a scientist

created a (much-needed) spark
  his visit ~ and drew the world’s attention to the Bronx

initiation: fire

spark (spark of hope, etc.)

spark of hope
  the ~ is getting smaller, but it hasn’t gone out

amount: fire

sparkling (superlative)

sparkling form
  the Watford keeper was in absolutely ~ against West Ham

superlative: light & dark

spark plug

team’s spark plug
  he’s the ~

initiation: electricity

sparring partner (role)

verbal sparring partner
  she is his ~ and confident

help & assistance: boxing / person

spartan (adjective)

spartan
  it was very ~

size: allusion

spasm (noun)

spasms of bloodshed
  ~ continue (violent drug gangs)

convulsed in a spasm
  for 3 minutes the casino ~ of violence (biker riot)

affliction: health & medicine

spasmodic (adjective)

spasmodic (sectarian) slaughter
  during the ~ of 2006-2007 (Iraq)

affliction: health & medicine

starting, going, continuing & ending: health & medicine

spawn (verb)

spawned controversy
  the agency has ~ (Darpa)

spawned a generation
  tanning beds ~ of tanning addicts

spawned a (TV) miniseries
  the book ~
spawned an (Oscar-winning) movie
her book ~ (To Kill a Mockingbird)
spawned (a great wave of) philanthropy
Carnegie, Rockefeller and Mellon ~
spawned terrorism
the Taliban's militancy has ~ inside Pakistan
spawned three tornadoes
severe weather ~
spawned (monster) waves
the hurricane ~ that toppled beach houses

creation & transformation: animal / birth / fish / verb
spawned
spawned by the war
the terrorism ~ in Chechnya

creation & transformation: animal / fish
speak (evidence)
speak for itself
we hope the evidence will ~
speaks for itself
the subpoena ~
speak for themselves
the test results ~
speak louder
actions ~ than words
evidence: speech / verb
speak (the people have spoken, etc.)
spoke
people in Massachusetts ~ (elections)

judgment: speech
speak (speak to something)
speak to the imagination
lighthouses ~

appeal: speech / verb
fictive communication: speech / verb
speak out (verb)
speak out against (perceived) injustices
she feels compelled to ~
spoken out against Chinese rule
she has ~ over Tibet
spoken out with a (contrary) opinion
we ~
speak out for white European-Americans
encourage (rape) victims to speak out

resistance, opposition & defeat: speech / verb

speak up (verb)
speak up
they were too scared to ~ (a corporation)
a manager warned her not to ~
spoke up
he ~ and said, "This man is not qualified"
she was glad that she ~
courage to speak up
the importance of having the ~ (military)

resistance, opposition & defeat: speech / verb
spear (tip of the spear)
"tip of the spear"
they will be the ~ if America invades Iraq
tip of the spear of the armored column
the ~ (7th Cavalry Regiment)

driving force: weapon
spearhead (verb)
spearhead the Orange Revolution
Ms. Tymoshenko helped ~ (Yulia)
spearhead a campaign
he called on radiologists to ~ to reduce dosages
spearheading the drive
she is ~ to get him elected
spearheading the initiative
Brazil, France, Mexico and Norway are ~
spearhead the project
he helped ~ (downtown revitalization)
looking to spearhead
we are ~ a major shift…

driving force: weapon / verb
spearhead (noun)
spearhead of a (new) economy
energy is the ~
spearhead of globalization
the W.T.O. is the ~
spearhead of the (democratic) movement
Solidarity was the ~ in Eastern Europe
spearhead for (Islam's) advance
the Sufis were the ~ into South Asia

driving force: weapon
species (type)
vanishing species
he's a ~ (moderate Republican)

taxonomy & classification: animal
species (vanishing species)

vanishing species
he’s a ~ (moderate Republican)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: animal

speckled (configuration)

speckled with copses and farmhouses
rolling fields ~

collection: mark

specter (noun)

specter of Sept. 11
he is haunted by the ~
specter of defeat
incumbents face the ~ (elections)
specter of war
the ~ is rising
ugly specter
the deal raises the ~ of conflict of interest
specter (of the past) lingers
the ~
specter (of eating disorder) haunts
the ~
confront the specter
once again, Americans ~ of impeachment (politics)
confronts the specter
he ~ of mortality (aging)
facing the specter
he is ~ of death
raises the specter
rising crime ~ of the bad old days (Newark)
rising corn prices ~ of higher prices for beef and pork…

haunted by the specter
he is ~ of Hurricane Katrina

affliction: creature

speed (up to speed)

up to speed on the details
I’m sorry, I’m not ~
up to speed on that
I’m not ~
time to get up to speed
new hires need ~
bring him up to speed
his advisors will ~ on the details (president)
get new workers up to speed
experienced employees can help ~ quickly

keep its algorithm up to speed
he has struggled to ~ (YouTube)

functioning: mechanism / movement
speed: mechanism / movement
experience: mechanism / movement

spell (spell disaster, etc.)

spells disaster
this ~ for urban peace (unemployment, guns, etc.)
spell disaster
unattended daily challenges could ~ (Velux 5 race)
spells doom
contact with outsiders often ~ for isolated tribes
spell trouble
four of these symptoms could ~ (panic disorder)
spells trouble
I think the whole thing ~ for the president (investigation)
spell (job-search) woes
bad credit can ~

fate, fortune & chance: writing & spelling / verb

spell (under a spell)

under her spell
she brought employees, investors and journalists ~ (a fraud)
under the (nonconformist) spell of Thoreau
he fell ~ (Andrew Martinez)
falls under its spell
everyone ~ (a panda)
fell under its spell
I quickly ~ (a book)
fell under Kelly’s spell
she ~ (sex abuse)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic
attraction & repulsion: magic

spell (cast a spell)

cast a spell on a ball
he seemed to ~ (Juninho / soccer)
cast a spell over the (rapt) audience
he ~ (a pianist)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic / verb

spell (in a dry spell)

in a dry spell
I was ~, lacking imagination and incentive (an artist)
six-month dry spell
having been in a ~ (dating)

progress & lack of progress: weather & climate
spell (into a dry spell)
fell into a (long) dry spell
he ~ (athlete)

progress & lack of progress: weather & climate

spell (throughout a dry spell)
throughout that dry spell
~ he showed composure (golfer)

progress & lack of progress: weather & climate

spell (dry spell / other)
dry spell ended
~ the goal ~ (sports)

progress & lack of progress: weather & climate

spellbinding

spellbinding story
the play was the concluding chapter in a ~ (series)

spellbinding mug shot
we look at his ~ and wonder why he did it (murder)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic

spellbound

spellbound
I watched her, ~
she listened ~ to his account

spellbound by (Old English) poetry
he was ~ (Auden)

stunned and spellbound (m)
he confessed all he had done to a ~ courtroom

held us spellbound
~ (an actor's performance)

kept the crew spellbound
~ for hours (the Far North)

feeling, emotion & effect: magic

spelled out

spelled out in the handbook
the policy is ~ distributed to every....

policy is spelled out
the ~ in the handbook distributed to every...

analysis, interpretation & explanation: writing & spelling / letters & characters

spell out (verb)

spells out
nothing in the law ~ to do with a student like her...

spells out what
nothing in the law ~ to do with a student like her

spells out fees
contracts that don't ~ or... (assisted living)

spell it out
do I have to ~ in every ugly detail

spells (all) this out
the contract ~....

analysis, interpretation & explanation: writing & spelling / letters & characters / verb

spend (time)

spent the night on cots
about 20 people ~ (tornado survivors)

spent a day in combat
the academic professional who has never ~

spent weeks in the hospital
she ~ recuperating

spent 19 days in jail
she ~

spent the night in the (dining hall) lodge
they ~ (climbers)

spent years in exile
they ~ in Iran (Hakims / Iraq)

spent 29 years in the Navy
Ms. Evans ~

spent years in school
I ~ studying a foreign language

spent less time at high altitude
I'd ~ (Everest)

spent a few hours with Hani Shukrallah
I ~

spent eight months (in jail) awaiting
he ~ until...

spent three years building
I just ~ this (an inn destroyed in flood)

spent (most of) his (adult) life climbing
he has ~

sent about two hours digging
the group ~ the cave by hand (climbers)

spent about 15 minutes examining
the trauma team ~ the boy

spend several weeks feeling
I ~ incredibly guilty about the situation

spent the afternoon hiking
we ~

spent the afternoon and early evening paddling
spent endless hours practicing
she ~ basketball (SuAnne Big Crow)
spent three hours removing
surgeons ~ the arrow (hunting accident)
spent a week searching
police ~ the area
spent their 77-hour ordeal standing
the miners ~, wet (trapped)
spent three months studying
he ~ English in Santa Monica
spend the last four years studying
he has ~ oceanography
spent the evening talking
they ~
spent his career training
he ~ young men and women for war
spent a lot of time trying
I ~ to fix it
spent days waiting
they can ~ in line (Chinese truck drivers / coal)
spent the morning watching
I ~ TV
spent his life working
having ~ in hospitals…
spent six hours working
he ~ on the framework (space-station spacewalk)
spent several years working
he ~ at a restaurant
spent most of my time rock climbing
At 20 I ~ (Reinhold Messner)
spent the day sightseeing
he ~ on the Las Vegas Strip
spent her (two) pregnancies nauseated and vomiting
she ~
spend the night
~, not a fortune (Scenic View Motel, Bryson City, NC)
spend (Monday) night
I’ll ~ someplace outside of Washington (trip)

time: money / verb
spend (spend energy, etc.)
spent a lot of energy
they ~ in the search
cost & benefit: money / verb

spew (vomit)
spewed venom
she ~ (neurotic woman)
hate-spewing (m)
~ crazies rarely care about the facts
speech: bodily process / verb
throwing, putting & planting: bodily process / verb
sphere (in the sphere)
in the economic sphere
~...
environment: earth & world
sphinx (noun)
sphinx of Washington
the silent ~ finally spoke at length (Robert Mueller)
Washington sphinx
for two years he was a ~, silent and mysterious (Mueller)
character & personality: creature / statue
spice up (verb)
spice up your sex life
10 ways to ~
amelioration & renewal: food & drink
spigot (noun)
loan spigot
lenders opened the ~ (home loans and foreclosures)
gushing (federal) spigot
many voters don’t want to shut off the ~ (deficit)
spending spigot
the ~ must close (government spending)
open the military-spending spigot
the Cold War helped to ~
shut off the spigot
they are trying to ~ of Russian boar (invasive species)
constraint & lack of constraint: infrastructure / water
leaking: infrastructure / water
spike (increase)
spiked last week
gun and ammunition sales ~
Increase & decrease: shape / verb
spike (spike in business, etc.)
spike in business
dollar stores are seeing a ~
spike in demand
we can expect a ~ (housing market)
increase & decrease: shape

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 574 of 982
spill (speech)
spilled out
she pauses briefly before the words ~
spills out
her indignation ~, but soon she calms down and...
speech: water / verb
spill (amount and effect)
spilled out
US special forces troops ~ of C-130s...
spilled out into their back yard
trash ~ (hoarders)
spilled out into the streets
people ~ (earthquake)
spill across the border
problems from Somalia ~ (into Kenya)
spilled over the border into Chad
the Darfur conflict has ~
spill over into other countries
he believes this trend will ~, including...
spill over onto MSRs
take action to ensure refugees do not ~ (military)
spilled over the border
its forces opened fire when the fighting ~ (Thailand)
spilled into Virginia
none of the protests ~ (from D.C. / IMF / World Bank)
amount & effect: water / verb
movement: water / verb
spin (spin out of control)
spinning out of control
digital downloading and copying is ~
his personal life seemed to be ~
Nairobi is ~ (crime)
spun out of control
the argument ~
control & lack of control: movement / verb
spin (message)
political spin
all the ~ in the world won't change that…
put an alarmist spin on the story
the reporter ~, as though the company were in bad shape
♦ "She was very concerned about the manipulation of news, she was very concerned about how stories were spun, how they were reported, and how they were changed over time, something that is obviously very topical now as we see news with questionable content." (The son of the remarkable Marion Stokes, who recorded news broadcasts on VHS from 1979 to 2012. From “Why a woman secretly taped 30 years of TV news,” BBC, May 8, 2019.)
message: movement
spin (spin control)
international spin control
official attempts at ~
attempts at (international) spin control
official ~
message: movement
spine (courage)
America’s spine
we have seen the steel in ~
show (a bit of) spine
politicians stand in front of unsympathetic audiences as a way to ~
have (enough) spine
some Republicans ~ to stand up to the president (politics)
courage & lack of courage: back
strength & weakness: back
spine (branching)
spine of the Pyrenes
behind us we have the ~ (on the French coast)
agricultural spine
in the landlocked Central Valley, the state's ~ (CA)
bases: back
branching system: back
spin-off (noun)
spin-offs from (space) experimentation
the medical and technological ~
medical and technological spin-offs
the ~ from space experimentation
creation & transformation / product: movement
spiral (spiral out of control, etc.)
spiraled out of control
Rye's junior prom ~ (drunk teens)
events quickly ~ (Bosnian war)
spiraling out of control
in danger of ~
spiral out of control
medical expenses can often ~
his life seemed to ~ (drug addict)
spiraling out of control in the Caucasus
violence is ~
life spiraled out of control
his ~
prom spiraled out of control
Rye's junior ~ (drunk teens)
expenses can (often) spiral
medical ~ out of control
violence (in Iraq) spiraled as ~ beginning in 2003
violence is spiraling ~ in Russia's North Caucasus
control & lack of control: movement / plane / verb
spiral (spiral downward, etc.)
spiraled downhill
at home, he ~ (troubled soldier back from Iraq)
spiraled downward
the economy of Detroit has ~
decline: direction / verb
spiral (downward or upward)
spiral upwards
the reported tanker attacks caused oil prices to ~
Increase & decrease: direction / plane / verb
spiral (in a spiral)
in a death spiral
American newspapers are ~ (declining circulations)
decline: direction
spiral (into a spiral)
plunged into a spiral of drug use
he ~ in his early teens
decline: direction
spiral (on a downward spiral)
on a downward spiral
the team is ~ (sports)
he has been ~ over the past 6 months (alcohol, etc.)
decline: direction
spiral (downward spiral, etc.)
downward spiral
sexual addiction is an ugly ~
her ~ began years ago when...
decline: direction
spiral (other)
spiral of depression
the downward ~, which can lead to death
death spiral
the avalanche ~ is likely to continue
decline: direction
spiraling (increase)
spiraling costs
the ~ of a college education
spiraling (health care) costs
how to cover the uninsured and control ~
spiraling (suicide) rates
~ sound a warning bell
spiraling violence
~ in the Middle East
increase & decrease: direction
spirit (feeling)
spirit of the hajj
the ~, where all stand equal before God
spirit of adventure
wilderness education instills the ~ (high school)
safaris are antithetical to the ~ (luxury / Zambia)
spirit of camaraderie
developing a ~
spirit of the carnival
some say the true ~ is being lost (Rio / commercialism)
spirit of defiance
what I appreciate about Bonds is his ~ (baseball player)
spirit of the (American) military
the honorable and decent ~
spirit of the Olympics
taking controversial judging decisions in the ~
spirit of reconciliation
work together in a ~ (Vietnam, US)
spirit of religion
violence and terrorism are incompatible with the ~
spirit of the sport
what violates the ~ (doping, etc.)
spirit of wilderness
Windy Falls embodies the ~ to me
spirit of exploration and adventure
for centuries, the North Pole has inspired a ~
spirit of amateur competition
supposedly this violated the ~ (1920s)
spirit of sisterhood
encourage the true ~ (sorority)
spirit competition
the annual Cheerleading Worlds—the Super Bowl of ~s
spirit, courage and talent
a man of indomitable ~ (Mayor Giuliani)
NASA's spirits
the success lifted ~
city's spirit
Rocky Balboa has come to symbolize the ~ (Philly)
company's (fighting) spirit
no one questions the ~

festival’s (innovative) spirit
the ~ (San Sebastian International Film Festival)
group’s (enterprising) spirit
the ~, anti-drug message
people’s spirits
the wet weather has dampened ~ (France)
state’s (independent) spirit
the ~ (Nevada)
Christmas spirit
~—goodwill toward men
Ramadan spirit
local Muslims complain of a lack of ~ (Dubai)
St. Patrick’s Day spirit
get in that ~
community spirit
unprecedented level of ~ (after tragedy)
holiday spirit
share some ~
pioneer spirit
the ~, the cowboy spirit
school spirit
bonfire, and the ~ it inspires…
team spirit
they hold hands in a show of ~ (high-school football)
that magic moment when you feel the ~ coming together
cowboy spirit
a latter-day extension of the ~
names that evoked the ~
start-up spirit
a corporate culture that maintains the ~
can-do spirit
its ~ has given way to a civil-service culture (NASA)
NASA’s original sense of mission and ~
enterprising spirit
the group’s ~, anti-drug message
fighting spirit
no one questions the company’s ~
she attributes her ~ to her father (singer with pink hair)
his exemplary ~ in the face of… (military)
uplifting spirit
it retains its ~ (film into a musical)
American spirit
he is an outstanding example of the ~ (hero bus driver)
adventurous spirit
she's an ~
she has always had an ~
civic spirit
Buffalo residents met the blizzard with ~
competitive spirit
the ~ (Ping-Pong players)
tenrepreneurial spirit
the ~ that built America lives on in Dubai
there is a deep ~ and a highly ambitious workforce
he spoke of their ~ and effort (Somali immigrants)
America's open frontier and ~… (bail bond companies)
free spirit
she was a ~ who played the flute
good spirits
she was in ~, but hungry and in pain (rescued POW)
independent spirit
the state’s ~ (Nevada)
indomitable spirit
a man of ~, courage and talent (Mayor Giuliani)
innovative spirit
the festival’s ~ (San Sebastian International Film Festival)
patriotic spirit
people show their ~ (Veterans Day)
true spirit
courage the ~ of sisterhood (sorority)
level of (community) spirit
unprecedented ~ (after tragedy)
show of (team) spirit
they hold hands in a ~ (high-school football)
honorable and decent spirit
the ~ of the American military
band and spirit (m)
the ~ squads (college football)
body and spirit
an ordeal of ~ (high Himalayan bivouac)
compassion, spirit, (even) gallantry
residents show ~ (nursing home)
courage, spirit and (selfless) devotion to duty
his ~
minds and spirits
a place to renew our ~ (creative retirement center)
name, spirit and tradition
the ~ of the school (Saint-Cyr)
Opportunity and Spirit
NASA’s durable (win rovers, ~ (Mars)
spirit changed
her ~, she wasn't the same (after being beaten)
spirits sank
my ~
boosted my spirits
it ~

break my spirit
no matter how long they keep me here, they can't ~ (jail)
dampened (people's) spirits
the wet weather has ~ (France)
embodies the spirit
he ~ of moderate Islam...
inspired a spirit
for centuries, the North Pole has ~ of exploration
for centuries, the North Pole has ~ of adventure
lift our spirits
the best thing to ~ is a sexy photo (man's magazine)
lifted (NASA's) spirits
the success ~
symbolize the (city's) spirit
Rocky Balboa has come to ~ (Philly)
violated the spirit
supposedly this ~ of amateur competition (1920s)
prop up her spirits
though her body sagged, her doctor helped ~
keep their spirits up
they sang and prayed to ~ (illegal migrants on boat)
get in that (St. Patrick's Day) spirit
it's not hard for her to ~
getting in the spirit
we are ~ (Halloween)

feeling, emotion & effect: religion

spirited

spirited competition
a ~
free-spirited
the ~ girlfriend
mean-spirited (m)
~ defenders of traditional values

character & personality: religion

spit out (verb)

spit out
high-tech machinery can ~ 400,000 lobster traps

creation & transformation: bodily process / mouth / verb

spit (split down)

spat down rain
the sky ~

resemblance: bodily process / mouth / verb

spit (verb)

spit you out
the river will ~ like a pumpkin seed (enders / kayaking)
spit (tons of) lava
Mount Nyiragongo ~ onto this central African border…

resemblance: bodily process / mouth / verb

splash (effect)

big splash
why did we make a ~ about it (arrest of a spy)
she made a ~ in her visit to the state (candidate)

major splash
he made a ~ early on (a writer)

felt the splash
when the Internet bubble popped, every Web site ~

made a splash
the book ~

make a splash
he ~ when he accused…

make a (big) splash
why did we ~ about it (arrest of a spy)

feeling, emotion & effect: water
attention, scrutiny & promotion: water
effect: water

split (noun)

cause splits
they seek to ~ between the citizens and the government

division & connection: materials & substances
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances

split (verb)

splitting the party
the issue is ~ (politics)

division & connection: materials & substances / verb
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb

split (split apart / up, etc.)

split families apart
our immigration policies ~

split up
Connie and Ivy ~ (marital problems)

division & connection: materials & substances / verb
failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances / verb

sponge (noun)

sponge
he's a ~ (a coachable tennis player)
he called her his ~ because she asked so many questions
he is a ~ when it comes to soaking up information
sponge of culture
  it's a ~ (headquarters of an artists' collective)
sponge for ideas
  she was a ~ (a cook with thousands of recipes)
sponge for (musical) ideas
  he is a ~ from a great variety of sources (composer)
sponge for information
  I'm a ~ (an arts organizer)
human sponge
  he's a ~ (a comedy writer who collects words, ideas)

absorption & immersion: animal / water
spook (verb)
  spooked the sailors
    a rash of accidents and near-misses had ~ of the 7th fleet
  spook them
    horses know what to do if you don't ~

feeling, emotion & effect: creature / verb
  spooked
  spooked
    financial markets are ~
      current bondholders would be ~
  got spooked
    he ~ (a suspect under police surveillance)

sport (team sport)
  ultimate team sport
    aviation safety is the ~ (regulators and manufacturers)

unanimity & consensus: sports & games
spot (in a tight spot, etc.)
  in a tight spot
    we're ~ with very little wiggle room
  in a (very) difficult spot
    this outcome puts him ~ (failed negotiations)

spot (tight spot, etc.)
  wriggled out of tight spots
    he's ~ before (terrorist)

situation: container / ground, terrain & land
spotlight (in / under the spotlight)
  in the spotlight since high school
    she has been ~ (college basketball player)
in the spotlight for the way
  police are ~ they handled the case
in the national spotlight
  the reporter put the case ~ (murder)
in the spotlight
  how do you handle having your love life ~ (a celebrity)
under an (international) spotlight
  its every move is ~ (a political group)
sport is in the spotlight
  the ~ after the death of…
put the case in the (national) spotlight
  the reporter ~ (murder)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark
  spotlight (into the spotlight)
  dragged into the spotlight
    they had been ~ by…
thrust into the spotlight
  I was ~ (Miss USA and the Haiti earthquake)
from the shadows to the spotlight
  survivors have moved ~ (sex abuse)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark
  spotlight (out of the spotlight)
  out of the (public) spotlight
    he is now ~
  keep him out of the spotlight
    we are trying to ~, under the radar (troubled athlete)

situation: container / ground, terrain & land

spotlight (shine a spotlight)
  shine a light on the abuse
    what he did was ~ (prison guard)
  shined a spotlight on (racial) tensions
    an attack that has ~ here (Long Beach)
  shines a spotlight on the practices
    he ~ and beliefs of the Mormons

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark / verb

spotlight (steal the spotlight)
  steal the spotlight
    any team can ~ in the early stages of the Tour de France

situation: container / ground, terrain & land

spotlight (other)
  international spotlight
    the ~ is bringing the country down (social media)

♦ A "fat man's squeeze" is the name for a narrow spot in a cave.
grab the spotlight
this gives China a chance to ~

shunned the spotlight
he ~ for the rest of his life (Neil Armstrong)

shift the spotlight to the president's handling
we need to ~ of the economy (politics)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / light & dark

sprawling (adjective)
sprawling city
Aleppo is a ~ of 3 million people

sprawling compound
he has retreated to his ~ (a dictator facing protests)

sprawling (intelligence) leviathan
9/11 helped to create a ~

sprawling (computer) networks
as we grow more dependent on ~, we grow vulnerable...

size: standing, sitting & lying
extent & scope: standing, sitting & lying
configuration: standing, sitting & lying

spring (growth)
Arab Spring
the series of revolts represent an ~
growth & development: season

spring (spring into action, etc.)
spring into action
when a disaster hits, local responders ~
eagerness & reluctance: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping / verb

springboard (noun)
springboard to the sacred
she uses nature as a ~ (a poet)

Initiation: mechanism / water
throwing, putting & planting: mechanism / water

sprung up (verb)
sprang up
many new housing developments ~
appearance & disappearance: plant / verb

sprinkle (verb)
sprinkled (nonscientific) rulers throughout the agency
she ~ (C.D.C.)

configuration: rain / verb

sprinkled (configuration)
sprinkled with the names
Antarctica is ~ of explorers and scientists

sprinkled among the crowds
~ were far-right extremists

configuration: rain

sprout (verb)
sprouting next to slum communities
you see high-rises ~ (Bangkok)
sprouting all around
condos and office buildings are ~
appearance & disappearance: plant / verb

spur (verb)
spurred the international community to threaten
the atrocity ~ the Serbs with Nato airstrikes (Bosnia)

spur growth
the government is trying to ~

Initiation: horse / verb

spur (shape)
spur ridge
as we snowshoed up a ~

spur track
trains roll in and out on the network of ~s

bone spur
he removed a ~ that had developed (in elbow)

shape: horse

spur (Geneva Spur, etc.)
Geneva Spur
we slowly made our way up the ~ (Everest)

Mummery Spur
they were swept away high up on the ~ (Nanga Parbat)

Snake Spur
~ twisted before us (Queensland, Australia)

Sunrise Spur
~ is in Queensland, Australia

Half Moon Spur
we looked up ~ (New Zealand)

proper name: horse

spur (on the spur of the moment)
go stargazing on the spur of the moment
it was not uncommon for them to ~

haste: horse

spurned

spurned by anyone
bamboo bows are ~ who can afford a compound bow
gift spurned
it was a ~ (soccer player misses easy goal)

acceptance & rejection: love, courtship & marriage

spur-of-the-moment (adjective)

spur-of-the-moment brawl
the ~

haste: horse

spurred

spurred to speak out
he has been ~ out (environmental activist)
spurred to action
he has been ~, to speak out (environmental activist)

initiation: horse

sputter (verb)

sputtering
the economy is ~

functioning: engine / mechanism / sound / verb

failure, accident & impairment: engine / mechanism / verb

square (public square)

modern public square
Twitter is a ~ (lawsuit against Twitter)

modern town square
Twitter is not merely a website, it is a ~ (lawsuit against Twitter)

Inclusion & exclusion: infrastructure / speech

society: infrastructure / speech

square off (verb)

square off in the general election on 6 November
the two men ~

conflict: boxing / verb

squeal (protest)

squealing
downstream industries are ~ (steel tariffs)

resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / sound / verb

speech: animal / sound / verb

sound: animal / verb

squeezed (squeeze)

squeezed (squeeze something for / from / out of something)

squeeze apologies from corporations
~ (slavery)

squeeze settlements from corporations
~ (slavery)

squeeze some good from his pain
he began talking about it, hoping to ~

squeeze out a living from this terrain
parents who ~ (mountains)

squeeze (so much) power out of engines
how it was able to ~ so small

squeeze sales out of (fewer) resources
helping businesses ~

creation & transformation: pressure / verb

squeeze (put the squeeze on something)

put the squeeze on a rival gang
he ~ (Al Capone)

oppression: pressure / verb

squeeze (pressure)

financial squeeze
the city is feeling the ~

putting the squeeze on Taiwan
China is ~

oppression: pressure

squeezed (oppressed)

squeezed
if the growers are ~, the banana workers feel the pain

oppression: pressure

squeezed (fitted)

squeezed into a maze
families are now ~ of vertical slums (Kabul)

squeezed onto 550 acres
Dharavi is home to a million people ~ (Mumbai)

squeezed between Tajikistan, Pakistan and China
the Wakhan Corridor is ~

configuration: pressure

stab (stab somebody in the back)

stab each other in the back
how we like to ~ (blacks)

stabbed her in the back
he ~ (was unfaithful to his wife)

allegiance, support & betrayal: knife / verb
**stab (sensation)**

- stab of love
  - she feels a ~ so fierce (mother for husband, kids)
- stab of pain
  - I felt a ~ in my ribs

**sensation:** knife

**feeling, emotion & effect:** knife

**stab (attempt)**

- stab in the dark
  - it was a ~, but…
- stab at Everest
  - Chantal Mauduit was making her seventh ~
- stab at boxing
  - many of my friends also took a ~
- seventh stab
  - Chantal Mauduit, who was making her ~ at Everest
- making her (seventh) stab at Everest
  - Chantal Mauduit, who was ~ without oxygen
- took stabs at boxing
  - many of my friends also ~, some for the workout…
- take a stab at TV
  - sometimes filmmakers ~ (Bruckheimer, Spielberg, etc.)

**attempt:** knife

**stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.)**

- stabbing pain
  - I felt a ~ in my side

**sensation:** knife

**stability (noun)**

- restore stability
  - in the latest effort to ~ after a military coup…

**functioning:** equilibrium & stability

**stabilize (verb)**

- stabilize the situation
  - US officials are trying to ~

**amelioration & renewal:** equilibrium & stability / verb

**stable (noun)**

- stable of (young) fighters
  - he has a ~ at the James Shuler Memorial Gym (Philly)

**group, set & collection:** animal / horse

**stack (blow one's stack)**

- blew my stack
  - I finally got fed up and ~

**feeling, emotion & effect:** boat / explosion / verb

---

**stage (verb)**

- staged the abduction
  - police do not believe the missing girl ~
- staged an (impromptu) parade
  - a million people ~ (French World Cup victory)
- staged protests
  - angry citizens ~ against the government
- staged an (unauthorized protest) rally
  - they ~ near Red Square
- staged tests
  - he ~ under simulated combat conditions
- staged a (phony) kidnapping
  - he ~ to cover up his crime

**directing & performance:** theater / verb

**stage (set the stage)**

- sets the stage for a confrontation
  - this ~
- sets the stage for (further) violence
  - the incident ~

**development:** theater / verb

**stage (center stage)**

- center stage
  - Clinton’s next opportunity to take ~
- take center stage
  - Clinton’s next opportunity to ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion:** theater

**center & periphery:** theater

**stage (attention)**

- national stage
  - this was his debut on the ~ (a politician)
- burst onto the stage
  - he was one of several poets who ~ in the 60s (Russia)
- returning to the world stage
  - China is ~
- has the stage all to himself
  - he ~ (a controversy others can’t comment on)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion:** theater

**center & periphery:** theater

**staged (directed)**

- staged
  - the famous photo was not ~
  - there was nothing faked, nothing planned, nothing ~
- staged by the government
  - the confessions were ~ for domestic consumption
staged by an ethnic group
the blockade is part of a strike ~ (Nepal)
staged for the auditor's benefit
the lesson was clearly ~ (school)
staged reading
their ~ of the Constitution was cynical (politics)
organized or staged
the accident has not changed how the event is ~ (race)
directing / performance: theater

**stage-manage (verb)**

stage-managed visits
the military ~ to troops (Afghanistan in 2006)

**stagger (verb)**

staggered the (scientific) community
he ~ (11-year-old William James Sidis)

feeling, emotion & effect: equilibrium & stability / verb

disruption: equilibrium & stability / verb

**stagnant (adjective)**

stagnant
wages are ~, jobs scarce, and credit tight

stagnant economy
employers are reluctant to add jobs in a ~
Republicans are to blame for the ~ (NYT)

decline: movement / water

**stagnate (verb)**

stagnated under his rein
the office ~

**stain (verb)**

stained everyone
he has ~ (cyclist denies doping, then confesses)

reputation: mark / verb

flaws & lack of flaws: mark / verb

**stain (noun)**

stain on our history
this is a ~ (lynching of blacks in the US)
stain on the honor
it is a ~ of the US military (anti-gay policy)
stain on the profession
he is a ~ (nurse who killed patients)
stain on his reputation
the ban lingered as a ~
the second ~ involves… (a US general)
great stain
the incident was a very ~ on the reputation of the Army

indelible stain
doping left an ~ on his record (sports)

reputational stain
the ~ is greater in these cases (sex abuse)

bore the stain
the city ~ of what had happened (Philadelphia, MS)

remove this stain
we must ~ from the laws of our nation (gays in military)

put a stain on her record
this could ~

flaws & lack of flaws / reputation: mark

**stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)**

Stairway Falls
~ is in Queensland, Australia

Grand Staircase
the ~ rises from the Grand Canyon (geological layers)

**stake (noun)**

stakeholder
stakeholders in education
there are many ~

♦ In the old days, stakeholders held the money of bettors.

interest: gambling

**stake (importance)**

stakes
the ~ are high

raised the stakes
the pope’s opponents have ~

♦ This word relates to potential for gain or loss.

importance & significance: gambling

**stake (high stakes)**

high-stakes test
teachers prepare students for ~s

importance & significance: gambling

**stakeholder**

stakeholders in education
there are many ~

♦ In the old days, stakeholders held the money of bettors.

interest: gambling

**stake out (verb)**

stake out (bigger) slices
in the ceaseless quest to ~ of the market

stake out (new) territory
as Microsoft tries to ~

possession: surveying / verb

**stale (adjective)**

stale
there's nothing ~ about the new retail concept
stale news
this is ~ being recycled by those with personal agendas

stale work
he battled against the ~s of the reigning academics

feel stale
he started to ~ and underachieving

grown stale
the company's offerings have ~ (mobile phones)

went stale
the relationship finally ~ (coach and team)

corruption: food & drink
flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink

stalemate (noun)

political stalemate
infrastructure projects are at risk due to the ~

progress & lack of progress: chess

Stalingrad (epithet)

Stalingrad of the East
the campaign is often described as the ~ (Kohima / Imphal)
turn Sloviansk into a “Stalingrad”
he threatened to ~ (War in Donbass in 2014)

conflict: epithet / history / military
resistance, opposition & defeat: epithet / history / military
epithet: history / military

stalk (verb)
stalk the refugee camps
malnutrition and disease ~ (Darfur)
stalks their every move
death ~ (soldiers in Afghanistan / IEDs)
stalked the residents
tragedy ~ of Maple Street

predation: animal / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: animal / hunting / predation / verb

stalking-horse (noun)
stalking horse
the company was the system's ~ (sued)

subterfuge: horse / hunting
concealment & lack of concealment: horse / hunting

stall (verb)
stalled
negotiations have ~
the economic recovery has ~

failure, accident & impairment: engine / mechanism / verb

stalled
stalled talks
a breakthrough in ~ on a bill that… (lawmakers)
remains stalled
the economy ~ in a deep recession
the governor's controversial plan ~ (by opposition)

failure, accident & impairment: engine / mechanism
functioning: engine / mechanism
progress & lack of progress: engine / mechanism
starting, going, continuing & ending: engine / mechanism

stamp (impression)
stamp of our experiences
our faces bear the ~

put a stamp
his performance ~ on a great career (athlete)

impression: mark / tools & technology

stamp (stamp of approval)
government stamp of approval
the label is the ~ for energy saving (EnergyStar)
privacy stamp of approval
the company gives a ~ to Web sites

societal stamp of approval
it is doubtful the practice will ever win a ~
gave his company a stamp of approval
gave its stamp of approval to the plan

put its stamp of approval on the negotiations
the Arab League has ~

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mark

stamped
stamped on the nation’s conscience
the murders were ~ (Philadelphia, MS / civil rights)

impression: mark / tools & technology

stamp out (verb)
stamp out "criminal machismo"
he has vowed to ~ (abuse of women)

stamp out superstition
Mao tried unsuccessfully to ~ (China / numbers, etc.)

stamp out many traditions
the ruling mullahs sought to ~ (Iran / Nowruz)

stamp out their way of life
Saddam drained the wetlands to ~ (marsh Arabs)
sought to stamp out
the ruling mullahs ~ many traditions (Iran / Nowruz)
vowed to stamp out
he has ~ "criminal machismo" (abuse of women)

destruction: foot / verb
stampede (noun)
crowd stampede
a thousand people drowned in a great ~ (Lagos)

behavior: animal
stance (take a stance)
take a stance on abortion
we would never ~ (editor of small paper)
take a (strong) stance against North Korea
China is under pressure to ~
took an assertive stance
he took an ~ (diplomacy)
take a strong stance
China is under pressure ~ against…

position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (resist)
stand against Hollywood
it's futile to ~ when… (film dispute)
stand our ground
we must ~ on education and health care (budget cuts)
stood their ground
the mayor and the police chief both ~ (criticism)
stood firm
he ~ and got his way and it is good he did
stand fast
the US will ~ against violence at its diplomatic missions
futile to stand
it's ~ against Hollywood when… (film dispute)

resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (position)
stand on the issue
where does he ~
stand with the victims
we ~ of injustice

position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand (stand as one, etc.)
stand as one
we ~ (on policy issue)

unanimity & consensus: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (stand firm)
stand firm for social justice
we will ~
commitment & determination: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (stand behind something, etc.)
stand behind their product
they ~ (satisfied J.C. Penney shopper)
stood by his decision
he ~ to fire her
stand tall
he will ~ for you (ad for politician)
allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (stand in the way)
stand in the way
just a few contract details ~ (boxing)
ever ~ of a person’s dream
he has made it clear he will not ~ (investigation)
stand in their way
nothing is going to ~

obstacles & impedance: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (stand the test of time, etc.)
stood the test of time
standards of honor that have ~
their marriage has ~ (arranged)
stood or fell
the government ~ by its alliance with…

survival, persistence & endurance: standing, sitting & lying / verb

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: standing, sitting & lying / verb
stand (last stand, etc.)
her last stand
her senate appearance may prove to have been ~ (Rousseff)
last stand for Ted Cruz
is Indiana the ~ (republican presidential primary)

♦ The rearguard action of a group of British soldiers at the village of Khig, following the British disaster in the Battle of Maiwand (27 July 1880) during the Second Anglo-Afghan War, was one of the most courageous last stands in military history. It helped to allow the bulk of the British troops to safely withdraw to Kandahar. The only survivor of the last stand was Bobbie, a terrier attached to the Berkshires, who made it all the way back to England. Bobbie visited Queen Victoria, who awarded him with a
medal. Custer's last stand is well known to Americans. Less well known is the fact that there was one survivor: Comanche, the favorite mount of Captain Myles Keogh, who was found wandering the battlefield, badly wounded. Comanche was transported by ship to Fort Lincoln, and then to Fort Riley, Kansas, to live out his life in peace, never ridden again, allowed to eat the flowers from the flower gardens, and called upon only to participate in "riderless horse" ceremonies. Another famous rear-guard action was the Battle of Thermopylae in Greece in 480 BC, against the invading Persians, who were eventually defeated.

resistance, opposition & defeat: flags & banners / military / standing, sitting & lying

stand (a tough stand, etc.)

stand on abortion
  people want to know his ~

tough stand
  his ~ could create instability (a world leader)

united stand
  a ~ on African development

stand reflects
  his new ~ more politics than principles (politician)

take a stand
  FIFA must ~ on fan racism

taken a stand
  athletes have ~ by taking a knee (NFL)

position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying

stand (stand still / time)

time can stand still
  time can move and ~

time seems to have stood still
  ~ (Mocha Island)

time: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand (stand still / progress)

standing still
  his friends were moving ahead while he was ~

progress & lack of progress: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand (stand still / development)

language doesn't stand still
  ~ (constantly changes and evolves)

development: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand (a lamp can stand, etc.)

language doesn't stand still
  ~ (constantly changes and evolves)

fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb

standard-bearer

standard bearers of (American) tennis
  they are the ~ (Williams sisters)

standard-bearer for women's issues
  she is a ~ nationwide

standard-bearer for his issues
  he has been a consistent ~ for decades (Bernie Sanders)

losing its standard-bearer
  the company is ~ (Starbucks)

representation: flags & banners / military / person

stand by (verb)

stand (idly) by
  we cannot ~ while the dictator kills his people

action, inaction & delay: movement / standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand by someone (support)

stood by him
  he thanked the fans that had ~ (scandal)

standing by me
  I know he is ~

stood by his story
  his bosses ~ (a reporter)

allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand down (verb)

stand down
  planes were in the air when word came to ~

stood the military down
  the operation was in the early stages when Trump ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: military / verb

action, inaction & delay: military / standing, sitting & lying / verb

stand for (verb)

stand for
  what does he ~ (a candidate)

position, policy & negotiation: standing, sitting & lying / verb

representation: standing, sitting & lying / verb

standing (continuing)

longstanding absence
  adapt to the ~ of water (Santa Fe)

longstanding (gentleman's) agreement
  violated a ~ between owners

long-standing dispute
  the ~

long-standing embargo
  a ~

long-standing feud
motivated by a ~ (murder in Afghanistan)

longstanding grievances
the uranium boom has given new life to ~ over land

long-standing history
a woman with a ~ of depression and abuse

long-standing interest
I have a ~ in politics

long-standing policy
the AMA had a ~ against… (medicine)

longstanding (US) policy
an update of ~

long-standing practice
his ~ of accepting lavish gifts

longstanding practice
end the ~ here of abandoning unwanted children

longstanding (security) relationship
the ~ between the two countries

longstanding resentments
the judge's ruling did not end ~ (integration)

long-standing resentments
~ over past mistreatment (US blacks)

longstanding taboo
a ~ against use of nuclear weapons except as last resort

longstanding (Chinese) tradition
spitting is a ~

longstanding (security) relationship
the ~ between the two countries

long-standing and deserved (m)
it has a ~ reputation for… (a company)

deep and long-standing
our ties are ~ (US / Canada)

recurrent, chronic, or longstanding
symptom episodes may be ~ (depression)

starting, going, continuing & ending: standing, sitting & lying

survival, persistence & endurance: standing, sitting & lying

stand out (attention)

stand out
two main courses ~ (restaurant review)

stands out
she really ~

stood out
some things ~ (murder investigation)

stand out from the crowd
a good cover letter will help you to ~

stands out from the crowd
one man ~

stood out among her (immediate) peers
she ~ (investment banker)

stands out as something special
the Ponzi scheme still ~

stand out in my mind
there are so many images that ~ from that time...

stand out in the (reality-show) cesspool
it's hard to ~ (TV)

attention, scrutiny & promotion / superlative: standing, sitting & lying / verb

standout (noun)

standout on the (basketball) team
he is a ~ (high school)

standout in a regime
Ali Hassan al-Majid was a ~ of criminals (Iraq)

attention, scrutiny & promotion / superlative: standing, sitting & lying

standstill (noun)

standstill traffic
he spends 10 minutes on average in ~

at a standstill
with politics ~… (lack of government action)

came to a standstill
the main port in Chittagong ~ (Bangladesh)

progress & lack of progress: movement / standing, sitting & lying
**stand up (stand up for something)**

stood up for
if Joe believed in something, that's what he ~
stand up for what
y they are proud to ~ they believe in
stands up for what
he ~ is right (ad for a politician)
stand up for (other) people
she taught him to ~
stand up for students
teachers admitted that they did not always ~
stand up for themselves
children must learn to ~ (during abductions)
stand up for the students
and we've had straight teachers who ~ (gay)
stand up for (all the) women
I hope she will ~ in the world (father of abuse victim)
stand up for the little guy
he isn't afraid to ~
stand up and be counted
this was a perfect opportunity for the chance to ~ (oppose terrorism)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**stand up (stand up to something)**

stand up to aggression
we must ~
stood up to the (schoolyard) bully
he ~ (student vs. record-industry lawyers)
stand up to bullies
we are supposed to ~, not follow them (politics)
stand up to employers
employees must ~ (unions)
stand up to (religious) fundamentalists
he was brave enough to ~ (assassinated)
stand up to the government
it took a brave man to ~
stand up to (scientific) scrutiny
she has no figures which would ~

**resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying / verb**

**star (shape)**

star dune
~s have a high central column
~s have 3 or more arms radiating outwards (deserts)
star quilt
a traditional ~ (Sioux style)
five-pointed star
a Wiccan religious symbol, a ~ inside a circle
Wicca's symbol, the pentacle, is a ~ inside a circle
gold star
she awards a ~ for good work (teacher)
Silver Star, Bronze Star
he won a ~, and Purple Heart (World War II)

**shape: astronomy / star**

**star (person)**

star of the sitcom
the ~ (TV)
star of mixed martial arts
Tito Ortiz, a ~, trains in gyms at Big Bear Lake
stars in show business
some of the biggest ~ were there (a party)
stars in Major League Baseball
international ~
star on the (acoustic music) scene
she's a fast-rising ~
star at the academy
she has been an academic ~ (Naval Academy)
star's ego
massaging a ~ is a necessary indignity
star athlete
a top student, a ~, and a caring girlfriend
star performer
recognize our ~s (customer service)
star power
the film hardly lacks for ~
star professor
~s move from one university to the other
star quality
youth, ~ and idealism
the ~ that very few people have
star scorer
she was a ~ (basketball)
star turn
the case was full of dramatic ~s
star case agent
~s fabricated reports (CIA)
Harvard's (rising academic) stars
he had been one of ~
movie's star
the ~
child star
she is a Hollywood ~ gone bad
movie star
  it was my first experience with celebrities and ~s

pop star
  Youssou N'Dour, the Senegalese ~

rap star
  one of the first female ~s

rock star
  fans of the Croatian ~ Marko Perkovic (Thompson)

soccer star
  a ~ at J.E.B. Stuart High School
  David Beckham, the ~
  one of the world's highest-paid and highest-profile ~s

television star
  writers, politicians, ~s…

basketball star
  Len Bias was a ~
  the ~ Michael Jordan

country-music star
  a guitar signed by various ~s

gangsta-rap star
  he is better known as the ~ DMX

Hollywood star
  a biography of a ~
  his client list once included many ~s (PI)

martial arts star
  he looked up to the ~ Bruce Lee as a role model

rising star
  the 25-year-old ~ (film actor)
  Sgt. Murad is a ~ in this effort (Arabic speakers)

rising (Hispanic) star
  the GOP has a ~ in Texas (politics)

rising (academic) star
  he had been one of Harvard's ~s

fast-rising star
  she's a ~ on the acoustic music scene

widely known and highly paid stars
  ~ (network-news anchors)

academic star
  she has been an ~ at the academy (Naval Academy)
  he had been one of Harvard's rising ~s

international star
  ~s in Major League Baseball

political star
  Pakistan's new ~ is bad news for the US

superstar
  she evolved from star to ~ (an actor)
  he is one of those ~ authors

nationally famous star
  from local acts to ~ (music)

25-year-old (rising) star
  the ~ (films)

biography of a (Hollywood) star
  the ~

achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / person / star
superlative: astronomy / person / star
person: astronomy / star

star (achievement)

star
  his ~ continued to rise

star in the (neoconservative) firmament
  Bloom had become a ~

Obama's star
  ~ is still rising

rising star
  she was once Silicon Valley's fastest ~

shooting star
  Gale Sayers was football's ~

star is still rising
  Obama's ~

star rose
  he won his first contest and his ~ quickly

star continued to rise
  his ~

achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / light & dark / star
superlative: astronomy / light & dark / person / star
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / star

star (decline)

star was (clearly) dimming
  his ~ (a baseball player)

star (of Lucy Lunsford) has dimmed
  how the ~

star was fading
  her ~ fast (head of corporation)

star had (already) set
  his ~ long before his death

star has fallen
  his ~ (a teen idol)

star had wobbled out of the heavens
  in the end, her ~ (Whitney Houston)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / star
decline: astronomy / light & dark / star
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / star

star (fate)

stars align
sometimes the ~ and we’re treated to an artist...
every song is a roll of the dice, but sometimes the ~ (a hit)

stars rarely align
the ~ to produce a winner (music)

stars aligned
the ~ when he was given a chance to direct his first film

stars have aligned
the ~ for Lopez Obrador (election)

stars lined up
the ~ (John Paul Stevens joins the Supreme Court)

stars have to align
a lot of ~ for those tax increased to pass (politics)

Nina Totenberg: [John Paul] Stevens’ rise was, to some extent, a fluke... / Clifford Sloan: It was an accident of history, and the stars lined up in a way that could not have been possible before that precise moment and probably could not have been possible after that precise moment. (Gerald Ford appointed Stevens to the Supreme Court.)

♦ This word is similar to noise.

fate, fortune & chance: astronomy / star

star (Silver Star, etc.)

Silver Star, Bronze Star
he won a ~, and Purple Heart (World War II)

proper noun: astronomy / military / star

stare (stare at defeat, etc.)

staring at defeat
she was ~ at 4-1 in the second set (tennis)

fictional meeting & seeing: eye / verb

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: eye / verb

stare down (verb)

stared down his (personal) demons
he ~

stared down his opponents
he ~ (a politician)

staring down the regime
protestors are ~

stare down risk
skiers ~ (crashes, fatalities, etc.)

resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / eye / verb

stare-down (noun)

stare-down over (budget) issues
they got into a ~ (ruling party and opposition)

stare-down with the police
some protesters stayed behind for a ~

stare-down contest
we had a ~, and he won (conflict)

stare-down game
in a kids’ ~, you lose if you laugh or giggle

had a stare-down
he and the coyote ~

starvation (noun)

starvation budget
scientific agencies on ~s

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food

starvation wages (noun)

starvation wages
sweatshop workers endure ~, dangerous conditions

♦ My dictionary dates this word to 1898.

sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: food

starved

starved for attention
he is ~ (a boy)

starved for cash
the army has been ~ since the cold war's end (Iraq)

starved for sex
Meagan complained she was ~ (on national TV)

cash-starved (m)
~ budgets

love-starved (m)
visits a ~ wife in her house

sex-starved (m)
we find ~ girls (Internet porn site)

wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink

static (noun)

static of statistics
a story can dart through the ~ into people’s hearts and minds

oceans of static
locating kernels of truth within ~

chaos and static and negativity
Trump ~

activity: sound

analysis, interpretation & explanation: sound
obstacles & impedance: sound

steal (steal the show, etc.)

stole the show
Travis Pastrana ~ (X Games / motocross)
she ~ at the MLS match (girl belts out national anthem)

steal headlines
we aren't here to ~ (cold-case detectives)

steal the spotlight
you can ~ in the early stages (Tour de France)

attention, scrutiny & promotion: crime / verb

steal (steal customers, etc.)

steal customers from convenience stores
Kmart hopes to ~ like 7-Eleven

stole a (close) decision
Trinidad ~ (against De La Hoya / boxing)

stole the round
he ~ at the end (a boxer)

stole the vote from Gbagbo
he was toppled when he tried to ~

taking & removing: crime / verb

steam (verb)

steaming over this
I'm ~ and ready to explode (angry)

feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / pressure / temperature / verb

steam (blow / let off steam)

blew off steam
he ~ in the Kamnik Alps (troubled climber)

blow off (a little) steam
on Fridays after work I like to ~

let off steam
if your child is high-spirited, let her go outside to ~

amelioration & renewal: pressure / verb

feeling, emotion & effect: pressure / verb

steam (pick up steam, etc.)

gathering steam
job growth is ~
it looked like PMS as a defense was ~

pick up steam
it looks like it's starting to ~ (firefighter on wildfire)

force: train

steam (lose steam)

losing steam
the campaign was ~

force: train / verb

steam (take the steam out, etc.)

take the steam out of the protests
the president is trying to ~ (France)

force / verb

amelioration & renewal: pressure / verb

steamroll (verb)

steamrolled to victory
the Americans ~ (sports)

steamrolled through the playoffs
the Detroit Pistons ~ (basketball)

steamrolled by Ovechkin
Luongo is fine after being ~ (hockey collision)

steamrolled by a (billionaire) bully
I will not allow our food community to be ~

steamroll the (traditional studio) system
streaming companies are going to ~

steamrolled his way
he ~ to title in 2014 and 2015 (a wrestler)

steamroll Siberia and the Far East
if the economy doesn’t improve, China will ~

destruction: tools & technology / verb

steamroll

steamy
Bollywood soap operas are not as ~ as Latin ones

steamy (sex) movie
I watched this ~

steamy (Australian) videos
tourists will want to buy ~

sex: temperature

steel (strength)

steel
you have been baptized in fire and come out ~ (combat)

ring of steel
Times Square will be a ~ (New Year’s security)

strength & weakness: materials & substances / steel

steep (verb)

steeped myself in classics
at Oxford, I ~
steeped himself in the theories
at Oxford, he ~ of Richard Dawkins (scientist)

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

**steeped**

steeped in turmoil
the team is ~ (sports)

**absorption & immersion: water**

**steer (verb)**

steered contracts to cronies
he ~ (political corruption)
steered money to his mistress' husband
he ~ (a politician)
steer money to a program
the tried to ~ that… (controversy)
steer patients towards abortion
counselors may ~ (genetic diseases)
steer them in the right direction
you have to ~ (training elite athletes)
steer mothers in the right direction
we need to ~ (breastfeeding)
steered people into returning
the recession has ~ to school
steer him from bad influences
some who worried did try to ~ (troubled football player)
steered away from describing
he ~ his injury (an athlete)
steer people away from generics
drug companies may hype expensive products to ~
steers the talk away from gay issues
she ~ (marriage)
steers us off course
sometimes life ~
steers the conversation
he ~ (group therapy)

**directing: mechanism / verb**

**steer (steer clear of something)**

steered clear of controversy
he has ~ (an ex-politician)
steer clear of drugs
programs to help students ~
steers clear of (clothing) styles
he ~ favored by Hispanic gangs

**avoidance & separation: boat / mechanism / verb**

**stellar**

stellar (boxing) ability
Mayweather is honing De La Hoya’s already ~
stellar (young) boxer
Dmitriy Salita is a ~ and an Orthodox Jew
stellar (job) candidate
she seems like a ~
stellar (employment) record
he was denied partnership despite a ~ with the firm
stellar views
the house has across the Anacostia to the Capitol
stellar year
the company had a ~ (profits)
stellar body of work
she has a ~ (a biologist)

**superlative: astronomy / star**

**stem (from stem to stern)**

from stem to stern
the book is anti-religious ~

**extent & extent: boat**

**stench (noun)**

stench of corruption
he has begun to remove the ~ (brave Newark mayor)

evidence: smell

**step (shape)**

step waterfall
a cascade or ~ isn't steep, doesn't plunge

**shape: stair**

**step (first step, etc.)**

good first step
the repeal is a ~ (politics)

first step toward stability
housing is only the ~ (homeless)

first step towards keeping
the measure is a ~ a campaign promise

first step in limiting
EPA takes ~ aircraft emission

first step to repeal
this is the ~ Obamacare (politics)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping**

**sequence: walking, running & jumping**
step (step ahead / pursuit)

one step ahead of him
I'm trying to stay ~ (woman being stalked)

one step ahead of them
but every time he was ~ and he got away (hunt for KSM)

one step ahead of us
he was ~ (a criminal)

pursuit, capture & escape: walking, running & jumping

step (a step ahead / competition)

one step ahead of her daughter
she tries to stay ~ (a 13-year-old / dating, etc.)

one step ahead of their teachers
it's easy for students to stay at least ~ (cheating)

one step ahead of our kids
we've got to stay ~

at least one step ahead
cheaters are always going to be ~ of the testers

remained a step ahead
AOL has ~, first with chat and email…

stay one step ahead
she tries to ~ of her daughter (a 13-year-old / dating)

competition: walking, running & jumping

step (a step away)

step away
he's just a ~ from success (a singer)

proximity: walking, running & jumping

step (a step closer)

one step closer to a second term
he is ~ (Hawaiian politics)

proximity: walking, running & jumping

step (every step of the way)

every step of the way
he was there ~ (supporting us)

allegiance, support & betrayal: walking, running & jumping

step (a step in the right direction)

step in the right direction
from what I hear, it's a ~
the decision is a small ~
this is a ~, but there is still a long way to go

progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / walking, running & jumping

step (a step forward)

steep forward
they are trying to take things a ~

tremendous step forward
we think this is a ~ (a conference)

bold step forward
the commission has taken a ~

taken a (giant) step forward
our nation has ~ on the issue of race

progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping

step (a step back / backwards)

a step back
the team has taken ~

a step backwards
this is a ~ to the bad old days (homeless policy)
the game was ~ (disappointed soccer coach)

progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping

step (in step)

in step with New Yorkers
her views are more ~ (politician)

in step with the times
he is not ~

in step with voters
she is ~ (a politician)

more in step
his conservatism is ~ with Republicans (politics)

marched in step
his career has ~ with the growth of the field

unanimity & consensus: walking, running & jumping

step (out of step)

out of step with his colleagues
he is ~ (a politician)

out of step with the consumers
the company seems ~ (autos)

out of step with the nation's
his priorities are ~ (president)

out of the step with the times
he may be ~, but… (songwriter)

out of step with the values
he is ~ of the modern Democratic Party (Joe Biden 2019)

out of step with the voters
his views are ~ (politics)

out of step with the (state's) values
his views are ~ (politician)

unanimity & consensus: walking, running & jumping

step (baby steps, etc.)

toddler steps towards equality
we have made some ~, and then we fall back
take baby steps
on the ridge leading to the Hillary Step I could only ~
progress & lack of progress: baby / walking, running & jumping

**step aside (verb)**
step aside for a younger man
it is better that he ~ (boss)
dismissal, removal & resignation: walking, running & jumping

**step away (verb)**
stepped away from boxing
he ~ because of the politics of the sport (Quartery)
step away from them
I didn’t want to ~ (a film director speaks of themes)
dismissal, removal & resignation: walking, running & jumping
verb

**step down (verb)**
step down
protestors are calling on the King to ~
stepping down as the chief executive officer
she is ~
steps down as the coach
Klinsmann ~ of Germany (World Cup soccer)
steps down as (Cuban) leader
Castro ~ (headline)
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping

**step (step back / perspective)**
step back
it’s a good time to ~ and think about the future (NASA)
it’s important to ~ and see the big picture
perception, perspective & point of view: position / verb
context: position / verb

**step (step back / sequence)**
step back
we are going to ~ now to explore another issue
sequence: walking, running & jumping

**step (step back from something)**
step back from the brink
they must ~ (rioters battle soldiers)
avoidance & separation: walking, running & jumping

**stepchild (weakness)**
stepchild position
the ~ of intelligence officers...
strength & weakness: family / person
worth & lack of worth: family / person
relationship: family / person
person: family

**step in (verb)**
step in
the grownups must ~ and clean up the mess (finance)
the president could ~ to fire people (politics)
Involvement: verb / walking, running & jumping
action, inaction & delay: movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
responsibility: walking, running & jumping / verb
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: walking, running & jumping / verb

**stepmother (cruelty)**
heartless stepmother
the EU is a ~ trying to drive Greece out of the family
relationship: family

**stepping stone**
stepping stone
she characterized the deal as a "~" (to peace)
stepping stone to get
migrants see Italy as a ~ them to France
stepping stone on (South Sudan’s) path
the polls are an important ~ to nationhood (2010)
important stepping stone
the negotiations are an ~ on the road to peace
saw the job as a stepping stone
she ~ (modeling)

**step up (increase)**
step up
we are going to ~ now to explore another issue
sequence: walking, running & jumping

**stepped up (naval) patrols**
Italy and Libya have ~ to reduce the flow of migrants
step up the tempo
   NASA believes it can ~ of launchings (shuttle)

increase & decrease: electricity / verb

step up (rise to the occasion)

step up
   great leaders ~ and take responsibility

stepped up to help
   his colleagues ~ him (sick wife)

step up to their challenge
   who among you will ~

step up to the plate
   parents have to ~ (having "sex talk" with teen kids)

step up and deal with it
   we saw law enforcement ~ (Austin serial bomber)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: walking, running & jumping / verb

responsibility: walking, running & jumping / verb

steroids (on steroids)

AI on steroids
   Amazon can deliver in two days because of ~

hang-glider on steroids
   they are a ~ (hypersonic weapons)

Reaganomics on steroids
   Trump’s policy is ~

put it on steroids
   racism didn’t start with him, but he ~ (politics)

increase & decrease / power / strength & weakness: health & medicine

stew (mixture)

stew of chemicals
   workers breathed a ~ (9/11)

stew of (caustic political) commentary
   the documentary film is a ~

stew of (energizing) contradictions
   it is a ~ (Game of Thrones)

stew of (inhaled) particles
   the burning ~ was composed of many things (9/11)

stew of religion, politics and (anti-immigrant) feeling
   the case involved a ~ (attempt to build mosque)

stew of (disappointed) separatists and Islamists
   the country is a seething ~

chemical stew
   sewers are ~s

toxic stew
   the broken well produced a ~ of gas and chemicals

mixture: food & drink

steward (role)

stewards of the Earth
   we are ~

stewards of the environment
   native people as ~

stewards of the land
   native residents are better ~ than newcomers

help & assistance: boat / person / plane / train
directing: boat / person / plane / train

stick (emotion)

stuck with me ever since
   it has ~

sticks to you
   it is stunning, and it ~ (the movie A face in the Crowd)

attachment: materials & substances / verb

survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb

starting, going, continuing & ending: materials & substances / verb

feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances / verb

stick (stick to / by / with something)

stick to the evidence
   people in traditional medicine said he did not ~

stick to our plan
   let's ~…

stuck to that principle
   and he ~ (Abraham Lincoln)

stuck to my story
   and I ~ (interviewed by FBI)

sticking to a (proven) strategy
   he was ~ (Tour de France)

stick to its (newly aggressive) strategy
   how long the US can ~ (in Iraq)

stick to Islamic values and traditions
   she urged women to ~ (Saudi royal)

urged women to stick to
   she ~ Islamic values and traditions (Saudi royal)

stick by him
   we will ~

stick with their given names
   many immigrants ~ (Takero, Quirino, etc.)

stick with the rules
   he must ~ of the game

attachment: materials & substances / verb

survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: materials & substances / verb
allegiance, support & betrayal: materials & substances / verb
commitment & determination: materials & substances / verb

**stick (endurance)**

**stick**
the allegations of child abuse didn't ~ (messy divorce)
there is uncertainty whether the recovery will ~
the deal might not ~ (diplomacy)

**stuck**
he threw polices at the wall and saw what ~ (FDR)

**survival, persistence & endurance: materials & substances / verb**

**attachment: materials & substances / verb**

**sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)**

**sticky situation**
even the most independent women face ~s

**get sticky**
getting involved in the rumor mill at work can ~

**flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances**

**situation: materials & substances**

**attachment: materials & substances**

**stifling (adjective)**

**stifling**
the byzantine regulations are ~

**oppression: breathing**

**stigmatize (verb)**

**stigmatize the mentally ill**
people still ~

**characterization: mark**

**stillborn**

**stillborn effort**
he documents a ~ to develop new antiviral agents

**success & failure: baby / birth / death & life**

**creation & transformation: baby / birth / death & life**

**growth & development: baby / birth / death & life**

**sting (noun)**

take the sting out of giving and getting
five tips to ~ advice

**sensation: insect**

**stinging (adjective)**

**stinging article**
she wrote a ~ criticizing…

**stinging blow**

**the jury's decision was a ~**

**stinging criticism**
officials unleashed ~ at the Fed

**stinging defeat**
it was a ~ for the Democrats (elections)

**stinging rebuke**
the elections were a ~ to the Democrats
the Vatican delivered a ~ to American nuns
his comments are a ~ of Obama (diplomacy)

**feeling, emotion & effect: insect / sensation**

**stink (verb)**

**stinks**
this situation ~

**corruption: smell / verb**

**stink (raise a stink)**

**raising a stink about the article**
no one is ~ about the article

**conflict: smell / verb**

**stir (effect)**

**stir in the (national news) media**
it created a ~

**stir among the (general) public**
the issue has caused little ~

**huge stir**
a gay student who ran for homecoming queen caused a ~
caused a stir
the antiwar statements of a few Oscar winners ~
causing such a stir
why Beto O'Rourke is ~ in 2020 race
created a stir
it ~ in the national news media

**feeling, emotion & effect: cooking**

**effect: cooking**

**stir (verb)**

**stirred up**
the novel ~ a critical storm (Thani Al-Suwaidi)

**stirred passions across North Africa**
the unrest in Tunisia has ~ (2011)

**stirs the drink**
he's the straw that ~ in Congress

**stirred fears**
the attacks ~ that…

**stirred the (public) imagination**
the killer's ability to avoid capture has ~

**initiation: cooking / verb**
stir up (verb)

stir up controversy
he tries to ~ (college Republican)
stir up gossip
this will ~
stir up indignation
we hope to ~ and stimulate action (MSF)
stirred up a (great) dust
all of the activity ~ above the village (powwow)
stir up (Democratic) turnout
they sent leaders across the country to ~

initiation: cooking / verb

stitch together (verb)
stitched the dispatches together into a story
he ~ (a journalist)
stitched together a community
we have ~ of nations

creation & transformation: cloth / verb

stock (worth)

stock
his ~ is surely set to soar (boxer after fight)
his ~ was high in the early weeks of the season (a coach)
his ~ has fallen so much (boxer loses championship)
stock has risen
his ~ steadily in the West Wing (vice-president)

worth & lack of worth: money

stoic (adjective)
stoic (Norwegian immigrant) farmers
he grew up in a family descended from ~
remained stoic
he ~ as the verdict was announced

feeling, emotion & effect: allusion / sensation

stoke (verb)
stoke (racial) animosity
the flag issue has helped to ~
stoke a debate
the incident seemed likely to ~ about…
stoked (furious) discussion
the issue has ~ at the Website
stoke the fire
increasing his punishment will only ~
stoking the (racial) fires
he is ~ (a politician)
stoked the fires
the issue has ~ of sectarian violence
stoked hysteria
the media have ~ (public health)
stoked (local) outrage
the company's policies have ~ (mining)
stoked protests
the acquittal of the soldiers ~
stoke (racial) resentment
the right is trying to ~
stokes resentment
she ~ of elites (a politician)
stoking their wrath
the state media have been ~

initiation: fire / verb

increase & decrease: fire / verb

stomach (accept)

hard to stomach
it's ~ (sudden death of young athlete)
acceptance & rejection: food & drink / verb

consumption: food & drink / verb

stomach (food)

stomach
an army marches on its ~
wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink

stomach (eagerness)
stomach for battle
an Iraqi Army unit showed little ~
stomach for the (entitlement) fight
the president clearly has no ~
stomach for what's ahead
it's not clear that the American people have the ~ (war)
stomach for boxing
his heart and ~ are no longer there
stomach for fighting
he has no ~
stomach for tackling
politicians have no ~ the issue (immigration)
heart and stomach
his ~ for boxing are no longer there
have the stomach
do the American people ~ for what's ahead (war)
eagerness & reluctance: food & drink / stomach

stomach (turn one's stomach)
turned my stomach
I saw some stuff that ~ (combat in Iraq)
feeling, emotion & effect: stomach / verb

stone (throw stones, etc.)

stone throwing
  it’s time to call a halt to all the ~
throw stones
  people in glass houses should not ~

accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land

stone (turn over every stone, etc.)

no stone
  ~ has been left unturned (a criminal investigation)
difficulty, easiness & effort: ground, terrain & land / verb
  searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb
  pursuit, capture & escape: ground, terrain & land / verb

Stone Age

take society back to the Stone Age
  they want to ~ (suppression of media)
growth & development: history
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: history

stone-hearted

stone-hearted (m)
  this ~ world
heart: materials & substances
  empathy & lack of empathy: heart

stone’s throw

stone's throw from the JFK airport
  a ~ is a Portuguese neighborhood

proximity: arm

stonewall (verb)

stonewalled the Swiss
  the CIA ~ (investigation)
stonewalling
  he was ~ very successfully (expert witness at trial)
  the White House is ~ so aggressively

obstacles & impedance: wall / verb
  resistance, opposition & defeat: wall / verb

stoop (behavior)

stoop to that
  why would you ~ (behavior)
stoop to his level
  don’t ~
stoop to that level
  it is not necessary to ~ (racial insults)

behavior: direction / verb

stop (stop at nothing)

stop at nothing
  he will ~ to silence the truth
  they are so desperate to win they will ~
  they will ~ to destroy the president (politics)

stops at nothing
  Candi Station ~ to create

restraint & lack of restraint: distance / verb
behavior: distance / verb
stop (pull out all the stops)

pulled out all the stops
  we ~ (investigation of child abduction)
  ♦ This idiom relates to a pipe organ.

commitment & determination: music / verb
difficulty, easiness & effort: music / verb

storm (verb)

stormed the (park) gates
  the kids ~
stormed back to win
  the team ~ (sports)
stormed the barricades
  he ~s (to hold church accountable)

amount & effect / force: storm / verb

storm (by storm)

by storm
  she took Hollywood ~

amount & effect / force: storm

storm (Desert Storm, etc.)

Storm King
  the USS ~ was commissioned in 1943 (a ship)
Storm King (m)
  14 firefighters died on ~ Mountain (Colorado)
Desert Storm
  he participated in direct-action missions during ~

proper name: storm

storm (weather the storm)

weather the storm
  it remains to be seen if he can ~ (a politician)
weather this (economic) storm
  cities need help to ~

survival, persistence & endurance: storm / verb

storm (in the storm)

in the gathering storm
  the hospital is rudderless ~ (deficits)
**conflict: storm**

**storm (perfect storm)**

perfect storm of challenges
the team is trying to weather a ~ (sports)

perfect storm of events
a ~ caused the die-off (of dolphins in the Gulf)

perfect storm of risks
the world economy faces a ~

perfect storm of depression, concussion and overtraining
her father described a ~ (daughter commits suicide)

fiscal perfect storm
states have sailed into a ~ (debt)

looking at the perfect storm
we are ~ (allergies and allergy season)

**amount & effect: storm**

**storm (amount and effect)**

storm of accusations
a ~ of sexual abuse (Catholic Church)

storm of controversy
the ~ that has blown up around him over…

storm of criticism
the ~ helped prompt NASCAR to…
the president returned home to a ~

storm of protest
the decision produced a ~ (government)

unleashed a storm
congressmen ~ of patriotic rage

**amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind**

**storm (conflict)**

center of the storm
at the ~ is Ayaan Hirsi Ali (Holland)

center of a (diplomatic and political) storm
he was at the ~

Gathering Storm
"Rising above the ~" decries our loss of competitiveness

passing storm
this may be just a ~ (politics)

diplomatic storm
the Prime Minister's stance triggered a ~

economic storm
cities need help to weather this ~

political storm
her decision has set off a ~ in the Netherlands
the report has caused a ~ in Rwanda (genocide)

worst of the storm
the ~ is over (employment rises from historic lows)

storm was brewing
outside, the ~ (protests against the government)

storm is gathering
a ~ (US lack of innovation, competitiveness)

provoked a storm
the article ~

quiet the storm
the league issued a statement to ~ (controversy)

rode out the storm
the punch hurt him, but he ~ (boxing)

set off a (political) storm
her decision has ~ in the Netherlands

weathered (all sorts of) storms
the Catholic Church has ~ across the centuries

**conflict: storm**

**storm (calm before the storm)**

calm before the storm
this is likely to be the ~ (lull in computer hacking)

**activity / development: storm**

**storm (immune-system storm, etc.)**

immune-system storm
an ~, anaphylactic shock, which can be fatal

**resemblance: storm**

**stormy**

stormy marriage
his ~ to…

stormy relations
the Shinnecocks have long had ~ with local authorities

stormy relationship
she divorced and began a ~ with…
he has had a ~ with management (network host)

♦ The hardy sailor comes from stormy seas.

**flaws & lack of flaws: storm**

**story (horror story)**

horror story
we've all heard ~s (bad landlords)

"horror stories" about methamphetamine
the press is full of ~

horror stories about family breakdown
all the ~

restaurant horror story
~s are on the rise
health-care horror story
a ~

managed-care horror story
another ~

resemblance: story / books & reading

story (war story)

their war stories
their podcast focuses on ~ (two heroin junkies)

recounts his war stories
as he ~ (about the film industry)

experience: books & reading / military / story

storybook

storybook moment
it was a ~ (glass-carriage royal wedding)

storybook romance
baby, won't you be my sweetheart, we could share a ~

storybook season
it's been a ~ for us (a basketball coach)

storybook victory
the validity of the ~ was questioned (sports)

resemblance: story / books & reading
flaws & lack of flaws: books & reading
superlative: books & reading

straddle (straddle the fence)

straddling the (diplomatic) fence
the Yemeni leader is ~ (US vs. Iraq)

allegiance, support & betrayal: fence / standing, sitting &
lying / verb
position, policy & negotiation: fence / standing, sitting &
lying / verb
commitment & determination: fence / standing, sitting &
lying / verb

straddle (connect)

straddles the line between news and entertainment
he ~ (TV personality)

straddled the worlds
he ~ of mainstream and alternative medicine

division & connection: leg / line / standing, sitting & lying / verb

straddle (configuration)

straddles the border
the community library ~ (between US and Canada)

configuration: leg / line / standing, sitting & lying / verb

fictive position: standing, sitting & lying / verb

strang (honest)

straight story
give us the ~ on how common they are…

set some people straight
he ~

set the record straight
I wish to ~

character & personality: direction
sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: direction

straight (the straight and narrow)

walked the straight and narrow
he has ~ for 14 years (defense asks for bail at trial)

character & personality: direction
behavior: direction

straight arrow (person)

straight arrow
she didn't drink or do drugs, she was a ~
♦ A straight arrow is a person who is proper and conventional.

character & personality: direction / person
behavior: direction / person

straighten out (verb)

straighten out the (financial) mess
the act appointed a trustee to ~

amelioration & renewal: direction / rope / verb

straightforward

straightforward approach
her ~ startles many (on pediatric safety)
Carroll's rah-rah style and Stoop's more ~ vary sharply
we take a ~ to business (honesty, integrity)

straightforward style
others liked his ~ (a coach)

honest, truthful, straightforward, ethical (m)
you can't always expect ~ behavior from recruiters

character & personality: direction

straight-talking

straight-talking outsider
he was a ~

speech: direction

strain (type)

strain of Islam
Wahhabism, the rigid and puritanical ~ (Saudi Arabia)

strains of Islam
with radical ~ percolating through Europe (prisons)

strain of (Sunni) Islam
the mainstream, Turkish-influenced ~ (Balkans)
radical strain
with ~s of Islam percolating through Europe (prisons)
rigid and puritanical strain
Wahhabism, the ~ of Islam (Saudi Arabia)
taxonomy & classification: health & medicine
strain (verb)
strained power grids
the heat wave ~
work & duty: burden / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb
failure, accident & impairment: burden / skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb
strain (pressure)
strains of (military) life
the unique ~ (problems)
strain on our relationship
it put a ~ (husband into motorcycle club)
strains among the (Western) allies
intervention could create ~
flaws & lack of flaws: skin, muscle, nerves & bone
strained
strained his relationship with his parents was ~
strained by demand
logistical elements can be ~ for ammo, etc.
strained relations
the ~ between our two nations (US / France)
strained relationship
he wanted to improve his ~ with his father
strained social compact
an already ~ will grow yet more frayed
badly strained
relations were ~ in March (between 2 countries)
relations are (more) strained
~ than ever (between talent and the studios)
flaws & lack of flaws: skin, muscle, nerves & bone
strand (dire straits, etc.)
dire financial straits
contrary to the report, the company was not in ~
situation: breadth / container
straitjacket (noun)
straitjacket of stress
a ~ shut me down (stuttering)
policy straitjacket
they put themselves in a ~ (euro zone)
chemical straitjacket
psychotropic drugs are a ~ (the mentally ill)
intellectual straitjacket
I began to realize my faith was an ~
absolutist and dogmatic straitjacket
they are confined in an ~ (Supreme Court justices)
escape the straitjacket
he could never ~ of the church
free the museum of the straitjacket
the museum is trying to ~ of ethnicity (MoMA)
puts nations into a straitjacket
targets ~
broken free from a straitjacket
he has ~ of his own making (a leader)
constraint & lack of constraint: mental health
strand (noun)
strands of Christianity
the focus of the day differs within the ~ (Epiphany)
strands of thought
these comments represent two ~
taxonomy & classification: cloth
strand (connection)
strand
the crisis ruined every ~ that knitted the country together
the flood ruined every ~ that knitted this country together
four strands
there are ~ to the novel
division & connection: cloth
strand (strand of hair, etc.)
strand of hair
needles that are smaller than the diameter of a ~
strands of hair
she collects ~ (of famous people)
strands of lights
people decorate their houses with ~ (holidays)
strands of razor ribbon
there are five ~ on the inner fence
miles-long strand
longlines—~s with hundreds of baited hooks
resemblance: cloth
stranger (no stranger)
no stranger to death
like most climbers, Anker was ~
no stranger to (difficult legal) disputes
the judge was ~
no stranger to war
Jaffna is ~ (Sri Lanka)

experience: person

strangle (verb)

strangling Iraq
the embargo is ~

strangle companies
I've seen government bureaucracy ~ (a politician)

strangle the experiment in its cradle
if nobody watches, it will ~ (TV show)

oppression: breathing / verb

strangled

strangled in its cradle
Bolshevism must be ~ (Winston Churchill / Russia)

strangle by poverty
they are ~ (Gazans)

destruction / oppression: breathing

stranglehold

stranglehold on America
the monopolies had a ~

stranglehold on the transport
Iraq has a ~ of oil from Iraqi Kurdistan

virtual stranglehold
a ~ on...

break their stranglehold
he set out to ~ (a ruler versus elites)

had a stranglehold
the monopolies ~ on America

oppression: breathing

strangulation

strangulation of Iraq
the ~ (embargo, etc.)

destruction / oppression: breathing

stratosphere

put his career into the stratosphere
the song ~ (Michael Jackson's Thriller)

extent & scope: atmosphere

stratospheric

stratospheric
such profits are ~, well over the average (academic publishers)

stratospheric reaches
the ~ of the entertainment world

stratospheric rise

her ~ was brought low by personal tragedies (actor)

went stratospheric
she ~ in America (Miriam Makeba)

extent & scope: atmosphere / direction
increase & decrease: atmosphere / direction

straw (the last straw)

last straw
the ~ was the hike in the price of electricity (riots)

last straw scenario
all these things have created this ~ (vote to censure Saudis)

♦ This probably refers to the straw that broke the camel's back. An inconsequential event, after a series of indignities, causes an extreme reaction.

feeling, emotion & effect: burden / weight
development: weight
failure, accident & impairment: animal / weight
oppression: burden / weight
affliction: burden / weight
initiation: weight

straw man (noun)

"straw man" issues
Ryan assails Obama for ~ (politics)

subterfuge: farming & agriculture

stray (behavior)

strayed
women whose husbands have ~ (been unfaithful)

stray (so far) from the limits
kids will disobey, but they won't ~ you set

behavior: direction / verb
failure, accident & impairment: animal / direction / verb

stray (direction)

strayed into the (restricted) airspace
the small aircraft inadvertently ~

stray out of sector
navigation problems can cause units to ~ (military)

strayed from its (intended) mission
Wall Street has ~ (to raise money, versus betting)

stray from the path
a good Muslim must not ~

stray (too far) from (Saudi Arabia's) path
but Qatar does not ~

strays from its route
we can disable a truck by remote control if it ~

stray from tradition
the younger generation has begun to ~

stray from the tenets and the values
black magic encourages people to ~ of Islam
strayed off course
  it appeared the sub had not ~ (hit seamount)
stray even the slightest
  his refusal to ~ from the Code of Conduct
stray too far
  but Qatar does not ~ from Saudi Arabia's path
refusal to stray
  his ~ even the slightest from the Code of Conduct
direction: journeys & trips / verb
failure, accident & impairment: animal / direction / verb
streak (winning streak)
on a (real) winning streak
  Republicans have been ~
success & failure: sports & games
stream (tears stream, etc.)
streamed down her face
  tears ~
streamed down his face
  blood ~ (a boxer)
resemblance: water / verb
stream (direct)
stream video
  what hardware is recommended to ~ on broadband
stream, burn, beam, buy or subscribe
  should you ~ (Internet)
transmission: water / verb
stream (move)
streamed to the polls
  Iraqis ~ (election)
streamed into Sydney
  sex workers who have ~ (for the Olympics)
streamed into the Good Shepherd Chapel
  people of all walks of life ~ (Mychal Judge)
stream through town
  about 15,000 tourists ~ hoping… (Churchill / bears)
stream (in) through the windows
  light would ~ as she…
stream in
  light would ~ through the windows as she…
streams in
  another picture ~, this one of a Chinese teen (Internet)
movement: water / verb
stream (amount & effect)
stream of casualties
  the attacks are causing a steady ~
stream of contributions
  fundraisers and a steady ~
stream of customers
  a steady ~ (an electronics-repair shop)
stream of pilgrims
  a ~ jammed the Via della Cenciliazione (Vatican)
stream of preachers
  the issue brought a ~ to the mike
stream of reports
  a steady ~ that Israel has been providing
stream of residents
  a ~ headed out of town (huge Colorado wildfire)
stream of text
  one long, continuous ~ (e-book)
stream of tips
  police are following up on the steady ~
stream of traffic
  a constant ~ (city / vehicles)
steady stream
  police are following up on the ~ of tips
  the attacks are causing a ~ of casualties
  a ~ of customers (an electronics-repair shop)
stream of jihadis into the country
  has been cut
  the ~ to a trickle
endless stream
  he saw an ~ of wounded and dead (Vietnam War)
amount & effect: water
movement: water
stream (resemblance)
streams of excrement
  the route to her hut is a path stinking with ~ (Kabul)
stream of fire
  he continued his deadly ~ until… (battle)
streams of lava
  the volcano sent ~ down the mountain
stream of urine
  stopping the ~ is hard for many people (specimen)
urinary stream
  difficulty initiating the ~ (medical)
jet stream
  the Everest peak is in the ~
  the ~, a speeding river of high-altitude air
  that river of wind, called the ~
  the ~ veered far south
  the ~ blows at around 30-36,000 feet
  the ~ wanders between 30° and 60° in both hemispheres
  commercial airlines often hitch a ride in the ~ (eastward)
the Germans first discovered the ~ in the 1930s high-altitude winds of the ~ (climate, weather)

resemblance: water

**stream (bloodstream, etc.)**

arrival stream
a new runway will allow O'Hare three independent ~s

bloodstream
a blood clot can break loose and travel through the ~

funding stream
you've got to put together all of these ~s

mail stream
introduce new technology into the ~ (post office)
the Postal Service is adjusting to a new type of ~
the anthrax letters entered the ~ from a mailbox

revenue stream
another ~ is needed for public schools (state lottery)
e-commerce is tomorrow's ~
online advertising is yesterday's ~
cable TV's dual ~s: subscribers plus advertisers

wastestream
the elimination of mercury from hospital ~s

waste stream
food waste in the residential ~ (recycling)

reporting streams
the quantity of intelligence from multiple ~s (terrorism)

independent (arrival) streams
a new runway will allow O'Hare three ~s

multiple (reporting) streams
the quantity of intelligence from ~ (terrorism)

branching system: river / water
route: river / water

**streamed (digital)**

streamed into the kiosks
the music is ~ via the Internet

**transmission: water**

**streaming (digital)**

streaming technology
as ~ improves

download or streaming
Walk Away Renee .mp3 is available for ~

**transmission: water**

**streaming (streaming media)**

streaming media
~ delivers audio & video over the Internet

streaming media for video conferences & meetings use ~

streaming media advertisement
a ~ plays before the video

streaming-media division
the Microsoft Corp. ~ division

streaming-media player
ever improving ~s

streaming-media traffic
~ is of growing concern

**transmission: water**

**streamline (speed up)**

streamline the (permitting and approval) process
we must also ~ (for building infrastructure)

speed / timeliness & lack of timeliness: shape / verb

**street (society)**

street
the ~ is not afraid of governments any more (protest)

Arab street
the ~ reacts to rumors
the ~ has risen up (Egyptian protests)
Iran's leaders play to the ~
the ~ sympathizes with the Palestinians

mood on the street
the ~ should be watched (protests in Egypt)

society: infrastructure

**street (cloud street, etc.)**

cloud street
~s can indicate thermals (hang gliding)
~s are rows of cumulous clouds

resemblance: infrastructure

**street (two-way street)**

two-way street
trust is a ~

social interaction: infrastructure

**stretch (verb)**

stretch (limited) resources
the costs will ~ (defense budget)

flaws & lack of flaws: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb
failure, accident & impairment: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

**stretch (extent)**

stretches from Hollywood to the halls of academe
the scandal ~ (admissions scandal)

extent & scope: materials & substances / verb
**stride (in stride)**

taking things in stride  
most people are ~ (terrorism fears and alerts)

took the high water in stride  
residents ~ (a flood)

**equilibrium & stability: walking, running & jumping**

**stride (progress)**

great stride forward  
the bill is a ~

made giant strides  
the city has made ~ in the last decade

made great strides  
Blacks have made ~ in all areas (desegregation)

made (giant) strides in the last decade  
the city has ~ in the last decade

made (great) strides in all areas  
Blacks have ~ (desegregation)

**progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping**

**stride (hit one’s stride)**

hit its stride  
it has ~ and just keeps on gaining momentum (movie series)

hit his stride  
he seemed to ~ when he talked about... (politics)

**starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping / verb**

**stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)**

knock them off stride  
dealing with something just before kickoff didn’t ~ (team)

**disruption: horse / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**failure, accident & impairment: horse / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**strike (strike a deal, etc.)**

struck  
in 1994, a deal was ~

**creation & transformation: manufacturing / verb**

**strike (forces of nature)**

strike Mexico  
the hurricane was expected to ~ early Tuesday (Yucatán)

struck with a (13.9-foot) storm tide  
Hurricane Audrey ~ (1957)

struck Monday  
the storm ~ with little warning... (tornado)

struck at 1:34 p.m.  
the quake ~ local time (Greece)

struck a church  
a tornado ~ just as the minister said, "Be prepared..."

struck an (oil storage) tank  
lightning ~ and set it on fire

struck (two of the) trees  
lightning ~

lightning struck  
~ two of the trees

they were under a tree when ~, killing them...

earthquake struck  
a powerful ~ off the Solomon Islands, causing a tsunami

a powerful ~ here Monday night (Afghanistan)

quake struck  
the ~ at 1:34 p.m. local time (Greece)

storm struck  
the ~ Monday with little warning (tornado)

tornado struck  
a ~ without any warning siren being sounded

warnings were delivered 11.5 minutes before a ~

tsunamis strike  
catastrophic ~ less often (than major earthquakes)

typhoon struck  
the ~ the coast at 3:50 p.m. in Fujian Province

landslide struck  
the ~ late Saturday in Olongapo city

rainstorm struck  
a freak desert ~ (Moltsog Eels / Mongolia)

**hitting, slamming & lashing: fist / verb**

**strike (tragedy, etc.)**

catastrophe struck  
then, ~ (accident)

disaster strikes  
his parents have told him what to do if a ~

disaster struck  
~ and the men found themselves drifting... (fishermen)

tragedy struck  
~ motor racing hard in 1999

**occurrence: fist / verb**

**strike down (verb)**

struck down the law  
a judge ~

struck down by the lower courts  
the travel ban was ~ but upheld by the Supreme Court

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction**
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / verb

strike out (verb)

strike out
if you ~ at the source, work the edges (an investigation)

struck out
I ~ (failed to accomplish something)

struck out
law enforcement had ~ (child murder)

success & failure: baseball / sports & games / verb

failure, accident & impairment: baseball / sports & games / verb

striking (adjective)

find it striking
I ~ that…

feeling, emotion & effect: fist

string (pull strings)

pull strings
I can't ~ and make them perform (a teacher)

pull the strings
politicians ~ and make the policies
he believes insiders ~ (the so-called deep state)

pull strings to get
he had his father ~ him out of the draft

pull strings from behind the scenes
they will ~ (politicians)

pulled strings in high places
she ~ to get her access to…

tried to pull strings
he ~ to secure an officer's commission

♦ "The Americans are the ones pulling the strings, and Moreno their puppet dancing to the tune of money." (Kristinn Hrafnsson of Wikileaks.)

control & lack of control: puppet / verb

string (sequence)

string of murders
he was guilty of a ~

sequence: rope

string (attachment)

with strings attached
"free" credit reports often come ~

with no strings attached
there are few "free" deals ~

no-strings-attached (m)
we were both looking for ~ sex
~ handouts sap incentive (welfare)

involvement: rope

strip (verb)

stripped him of his security clearance
the government ~

stripped him of command
the Navy ~ of the aircraft carrier

strip unions of their (bargaining) rights
he wants to ~ (politics)

dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories / verb

strip (strip something down)

strip it down to its core
if we ~ (music)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: clothing & accessories / verb

substance & lack of substance: clothing & accessories / verb

stripe (noun)

earn your stripes
you've got to ~ (stock-car racing)

experience: military

stripe (of all stripes)

politicians of all stripes
~ say they want to lower prescription-drug costs

taxonomy & classification: cloth

stripped

stripped of his titles
he was ~ (for doping)

dismissal, removal & resignation: clothing & accessories

strong-arm (verb)

strong-armed subjects
he ~ to get them to lie (a prosecutor)

strong-arm him into joining
his strict father tried to ~ the family’s business

coercion & motivation: verb / violence

stronghold

stronghold of apartheid sympathy
the Limpopo Province is a ~

stronghold in (eastern) Saudi Arabia
Qatif, a Shiite ~

Ibo stronghold
Nigeria with its Yoruba heartland, ~s and Hausa north

Shiite stronghold
Qatif, a ~ in eastern Saudi Arabia
salmon stronghold
   Kamchatka, one of the last ~s on earth
lost control of (some of) its former strongholds
   the party ~ (Mexico)

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

**strongman (person)**
   “strongman” image
   his ~ many not win him votes (Narendra Modi)
strongman leader
   he is a ~ in the mold of Erdogan and Putin (Narendra Modi)
military strongman
   Khalifa Haftar is Libya’s ~
**character & personality: circus / military / person**

**struck (effect)**
   struck by how long
   I was ~ it took him
feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force

**stud (noun)**
   he thinks he’s a real ~ with the women
**character & personality / sex: animal / horse**

**stuck (adjective)**
   stuck
   without any other job prospects, he is ~
stuck with (obsolete) equipment
   they are ~ (Philippine military)
stuck in a (forgotten) corner
   Siberians no longer feel ~ of the globe
stuck in a (vicious) cycle
   she's ~ (eating to relieve depression)
stuck in the doldrums
   the economy is ~
stuck in place
   animals can move, but trees are ~
stuck in the trailers
   the refugees may be ~ for years (Katrina)
stuck in the (Vienna) airport
   most of his gear got ~ (climber)
stuck in a civil war
   the Central African Republic has been ~ (2009)
stuck between adolescence and adulthood
   he is ~ (a young snowboarder)
stuck between its past and its future
   Haiti is ~
   stuck between a rock and a hard place
   I’m ~ (too poor to improve situation)
stuck between the underground and the mainstream
   he is ~ (a young snowboarder)
stuck in aging schools
   children ~ without air conditioning
feel stuck
   Siberians no longer ~ in a forgotten corner of the globe
get stuck
   we all ~ in bad beauty habits (cosmetics)
you don’t have to ~ in that cycle (a gang)
got stuck
   most of his gear ~ in the Vienna airport (climber)
**obstacle & impedance: ground, terrain & land**

**progress & lack of progress: ground, terrain & land**

**study (noun)**
   study in contrasts
   he is, in many ways, a ~
   **analysis, interpretation & explanation: school & education**

**study (quick study)**
   quick study
   he’s a ~, but he has a lot to learn
   **ability & lack of ability: school & education**

**stumble (verb)**
   stumbled offensively
   they have ~ (sports team)
stumbled out of the gate
   her campaign ~ but has since found its footing
economy is stumbling
   the ~
strategy stumbled
   that ~ when the group rejected…
talks have stumbled
   ~ repeatedly over efforts to… (climate change)
**failure, accident & impairment: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**obstacles & impedance: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**progress & lack of progress: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**flaws & lack of flaws: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**equilibrium & stability: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**stumble (noun)**
   stumbles on the road
   there have been some ~ to reform
string of stumbles
   her ~ changed that calculus~ (that she could win easily)
suffered a stumble
his campaign ~ before it began, when he... (politics)

failure, accident & impairment: walking, running & jumping obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping equilibrium & stability: walking, running & jumping

stumble (stumble across / on / upon)
stumbled across (skeletal) remains
a game agent ~ (human)
stumbled across (an amazing) break
we ~ (surfers)
stumbled across something
but then she ~ that would change her life (chat rooms)
stumbled on a (major meth) lab
authorities ~
stumbled on her story
he ~ when he... (a journalist)
stumbled on a (new) way
he ~ to do it
stumbled upon a (major) cache
police ~ of weapons

searching & discovery: walking, running & jumping / verb
fictive meeting & seeing: verb

stumble (stumble into something)
stumbled into a civil war
Tajikistan quickly ~
involvement: walking, running & jumping / verb

stumble (stumble over one's words)
stumbling over my words
I tried to explain, but I was ~
speech: verb / walking, running & jumping
flaws & lack of flaws: speech / verb / walking, running & jumping

stumbling block
stumbling block in the negotiations
the issue proved to be a major ~

major stumbling block
the issue proved to be a ~ in the negotiations

failure, accident & impairment: walking, running & jumping obstacle & impedance: walking, running & jumping progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping

stun (verb)

stunned authorities
some of the incidents have ~ (youth violence)
stunned the nation
the crime ~ (Central Park "wilding")
stunned visitors
the death ~ of the community (animal attack)
stunned (U.S.) delegates
the vote ~
stunned France
when Senegal ~, 1-0 (soccer)
stunned Norfolk
the killings ~
stunned many Russians
the death toll ~ (military crash)

feeling, emotion & effect: force / sensation / verb

stung (feeling)
stung by their breakup
he was ~ (relationship)
remains stung
she ~ by how she is being portrayed in the press

feeling, emotion & effect: insect / sensation / verb

stunned (feeling)
stunned
the mountaineering world was ~ (by Tomaz Humar)
I stood there, ~ (kayaker after near-death experience)
doctors were ~ (new epidemic disease)
stunned to discover
he was not the only one ~ they were drug traffickers

stunned to hear
he was ~ that...
she was ~ him say... (pedophile)

stunned to learn
he was ~ about the Air Force's use of amphetamines

stunned at the number
they were ~ of jihadists heading overseas

stunned by Cameroon
Argentina was ~ 1-0 (soccer)

stunned by the ferocity
commanders were ~ of the ambush (Afghanistan)

stunned by the hostility
she was ~ (gender discrimination)

stunned by the (general's) murder
he is still ~

stunned by what I saw
I was ~ (effects of windstorm)

stunned bystanders
entire houses floated by ~ (flash flood)

stunned mourners
~ gathered (after Kurt Cobain's suicide)

stunned reporter
the ~ kept repeating, "Oh, my goodness…"

stunned silence
there was a brief, ~ (birders see rare bird)

stunned survivors
he gathered the ~ into a defensive perimeter (combat)

stunned travelers
the airport was thronged by ~ (after Bali bombing)

stunned courtroom
no one in the ~ seemed prepared for…

stunned and helpless (m)
they watched in ~ awe (flash flood)

stunned and hurt
her teammates were ~ (racist chants at sports event)

truly stunned
I was ~ (UN decision to allow genocide to continue)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

**stunning (adjective)**

stunning news
his arrest was ~ in the NHL (hockey)
he summoned his staff and delivered the ~

stunning performance
his ~ in the Alps and the Pyrenees (Tour de France)

stunning twist
it was a ~

stunning victory
he won a ~ Monday night (elections)

**feeling, emotion & effect: fist / force / sensation**

**stunted**

stunted as a force
we must not let the Internet be ~ for invention

corruption / growth & development: size

**suck up (verb)**

suck up information
the F-35 can ~ and pass it to other aircraft

*Or, hoover up…*

**absorption & immersion: verb / water**

**suffocate (verb)**

suffocate
the economy will ~ without new-jobs creation

suffocate every (natural) instinct
her parents tried to ~ in her (sex)

**oppression: breathing / verb**

**suffocated**
suffocated by this deluge

the coral reefs are slowly ~ by refuse (trash, nets, plastic)

**oppression: breathing**

**suffocating**
suffocating
the feeling of isolation is ~ (an island off of Chile)

**feeling, emotion & effect / oppression: breathing**

**suggest (indicate)**
suggest
what it does ~ is that…
suggest that
we don't have any evidence to ~… (investigation)
suggest one bacterium over another
the character of the sputum may ~
suggest another diagnosis
these symptoms are uncharacteristic and should ~
suggests fracture
gingival bleeding at base of tooth ~
suggest the possibility
certain clues ~ of a struggle
suggest violence
pattern injuries ~
suggest abuse or battering
contusions that are circular or linear ~
suggested poisoning
his symptoms ~

advisory suggested
the ~ climbers descend… (bad weather)

analysis has suggested
matched cohort ~ a lower mortality rate in…

analyses suggest
similar ~ that whales evolved from land animals
data suggest
the ~ that mothers who smoke… (study)
new census ~ that there are far more…
~ that insignificant contact with bats may…
recent ~ that captopril may play a unique role in…
edema (also) suggests
the peripheral ~ deep vein thrombosis

estimates suggest
government ~ the strike has cost over…

evidence suggests
that idea is not quite right, ~
anecdotal ~ that most users are males under 40
a growing body of ~ that even brief bedrest is…
but some new ~ this one might be different
the overwhelming ~ that we eat too much salt

experience suggests
his own ~ that a typical corporate network suffers…

findings suggest
the following physical ~ a focal infection
the ~ that…

forecasts suggest
the administration's own economic ~ that… (jobs)

history (of vaginal discharge) suggests
a ~ that… (ED)

injuries suggest
pattern ~ violence (ED)

models (of ARDS) suggest
adult and infant animal ~ that…

profile had suggested
an FBI ~ the kidnapper is a predator, and possibly…

profile (also) suggested
the ~ that the killer… (FBI-created profile)

recommendations suggest
recent ~ treatment for 60 days with… (anthrax)

reconstruction (of this crash) suggests
as a ~, some accidents may be "normal" (plane crash)

reports suggested
preliminary ~ rough seas overwhelmed the boat

research suggests
but new ~ that even…

researchers suggested
some ~ that the study might have understated…

scores suggested
and test ~ that 70% of Fremont's students didn't…

signs suggest
nearly all ~ Armstrong is ready (Tour de France)

statistics suggested
that risk was, ~, far higher than… (shuttle)

studies suggest
some ~ that prolonged bedrest…

although ~ a greater prevalence in developed nations

current ~ that four or five times a week is best;
molecular ~ that SIV entered chimpanzees long after…

other ~ that 3-10% of elders are abused or neglected

surveys suggest
recent ~ that 36% of under-29-year-olds in Britain…
national ~ that 94% of parents acknowledge…

symptoms suggest
contraindicated in children whose ~ Reye syndrome

theory suggests
this ~ that elder abuse is caused by…

common sense suggests
~ that at some point…

vital signs may suggest

the ~ sepsis even if fever is absent

testing suggested
shuttle ~ that the wings were vulnerable…

evidence to suggest
there is no ~ that he informed school officials…

nothing to suggest
there was ~ the action was in any way related to…

reasons to suggest
there are plenty of ~ that…

fair to suggest
it isn't ~ that the Central Asians are…

strongly suggests
the evidence ~ that…

strongly suggest
pink frothy sputum and dyspnea ~ pulmonary edema

evidence: speech / verb

fictive communication: verb

suggestion

suggestion of foul play
there was no ~

evidence: speech

suicide (career suicide, etc.)

suicide by a thousand cuts
the company is committing ~ (failing)

suicide magnet
the viaduct has a morbid reputation as a ~ (Toronto)

career suicide
eye have decided to risk ~

he's committing ~ (prosecutor refused to drop case)

commercial suicide
not to use the engine would have been ~ (Boeing)

political suicide
investigating our own agency would be ~

it’s ~ for the Democrats… (politics)

committed (political) suicide
he ~ by announcing that…

starting, going, continuing & ending: death & life

destruction: death & life

suit (follow suit)

follow suit
states feel pressure to ~ (gambling policy)

uniformity & consensus: cards / verb

suite (suite of tools, etc.)

suite of tools
the rover has a ~ (Mars Science Lab)
help & assistance: infrastructure
    group, set & collection: infrastructure

suitor (noun)

a lot of suitors
    but there are a ~... Sri Lanka / China, etc.)

pursuit, capture & escape: love, courtship & marriage

sully (verb)

sullied my reputation
    the incident ~
    ♦ This verb has its origin in the soil.

accusation & criticism: ground, terrain & land / verb

summer

summer
    a life without love is like a year without ~

love, courtship & marriage: season

summit (at the summit)

at the summit of her achievement
    the work stands ~ as an artist

at the summit of his fame
    he turned his back on Hollywood ~

at the summit of his power
    he died ~

achievement, recognition & praise: direction / mountains & hills

sun (currency and obsolescence)

moment in the sun
    he had his ~ (rock star)  
    I think they have had their ~ (team in World Cup)

new day in the sun
    the research is having a ~ (on attention)

sun has set
    the ~ on the Kennedy era

sun is setting
    the ~ on the dirty energy of the past

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day / sun

sunk in

sunk in
    it’s over, and that hasn’t ~ yet

comprehension & in comprehension: water

absorption & immersion: water

sunlight (concealment)

sunlight of (open) debate
    he exposed them to the disinfecting ~

concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark

attention, scrutiny & promotion: light & dark

sunny

sunny side
    look on the ~ (advice to parent of toddler with problem)

sunny smile
    a ~ seemed the antidote to adversity

danceable, sunny (m)
    the group wrote ~ lyrics

feeling, emotion & effect: light & dark

sunset (ride into the sunset)

riding into the sunset
    after tomorrow, I’m going to be ~ (vote)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: day / film / sun

Super Bowl

Super Bowl of spirit competitions
    the annual Cheerleading Worlds—the ~

Super Bowl of the canines
    the ~ (Westminster Dog Show)

Superbowl of church suppers
    the ~ (Wild Game Supper in Bradford, Vt.)

akin to the Super Bowl
    in the mountainous nations, the Hahnenkamm is ~ (skiing)

superlative: epitaph / football / sports & games

superhighway

superhighway
    the road to stardom hasn’t been a ~ for her (actor)

shipping superhighway
    the Strait of Malacca is a ~

information superhighway
    popular culture now rides on the ~
    he mines the ~
    the railroad was the original ~

route: infrastructure

supernova (achievement)

tech supernova
    she was a ~ who said she had an amazing invention
    (Elizabeth Holmes)

pitching supernova
    Dwight Gooden was a ~

achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / light & dark / star

superlative: astronomy / light & dark / star

growth & development: astronomy / light & dark / star

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / light & dark / star
supernova (attention)
went supernova
the conflict ~ in the pages of the New York Times
attention, scrutiny & promotion: astronomy / light & dark / star

supine (adjective)
supine relationship
he embodies his party’s rather ~ to this president (politics)
supine and silent
Congress has been ~
dominance & submission: standing, sitting & lying
resistance, opposition & defeat: standing, sitting & lying

supple (adjective)
supple
artificial intelligence can be as ~ as a human’s
supple intelligence
her ~ distinguished her (a political advisor)
supple sensitivity
he performs the songs with ~ (Sinatra)
supple voice
her ~ can caress and shock (a singer)
her ~ constantly transforms itself
supple (pop-jazz) voice
she has a ~
supple and durable (m)
radio is a ~ technology
ability & lack of ability: materials & substances
constraint & lack of constraint: materials & substances

surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)
surefire investment
I thought it was a ~
surefire recipe
this is a ~ to ruin the economy (politics)
surefire replacement
the team has no ~ for either player (sports)
surefire solution
there is no ~ for this
surefire technique
another ~ is to…
surefire way
it’s a ~ to make money
no one has yet found a ~ to do that
seems surefire
a scene that ~ in rehearsal can fall flat
flaws & lack of flaws: weapon
certainty & uncertainty: weapon

sure-footed (adjective)
sure-footed
he came off as defensive, not so ~ (a politician)
flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability

surf (computers)
surf the Internet
she likes to ~
computer: sports & games / verb

surface (verb)
surface
the truth may never ~ (rumors in the news)
surfaced on (several) gossip blogs
the video clip ~ last week
surfaced in Canada
they disappeared and then ~
eventually surface
the truth will ~ (disappearance of college coed)
evidence has surfaced
no new ~ in the case
name surfaced
his ~ during the investigation (terrorist)
appearance & disappearance: water / verb

surface (on the surface)
on the surface
~, it looks bad
appearance & reality: water

surface (under the surface)
under the surface
but ~, the sectarian divisions remain (Lebanon)
bubbling (just) under the surface
conflict is ~
appearance & reality: water
concealment & lack of concealment: water

surface (scratch the surface)
scratch the surface
these findings just ~
scratches the surface
even this huge number barely ~ (microbes in gut)
extent & scope: skin, muscle, nerves & bone / verb

surface (bring to the surface)
brought the (bitter) rift to the surface
the incident ~ (between military and government)
appearance & disappearance: verb / water
concealment & lack of concealment: verb / water

surge (noun)

surge in violence
there has been a ~ (Chicago gang violence)

amount & effect: tide / water
movement: tide / water

surge (intransitive verb / increase)

membership surged
gang ~
numbers surging
why are the ~ (for testing accommodations)

increase & decrease: tide / water / verb

surge (intransitive verb / effect)
surgling across the southern border
migrants are ~

amount & effect: tide / verb / water
movement: tide / verb / water

surge (transitive verb)
surged their (national) resources
the ATF ~ (serial bombings in Austin, Texas)

directing: tide / verb / water

surgery (noun)

drastic surgery
~ seems the only answer, amputate before infection spreads
(soccer club)

radical surgery
France is resisting such ~ (austerity)

amelioration & renewal: health & medicine

surrender (verb)
surrender their seats to (pregnant) women
some refuse to ~ (New Yorkers)
surrendered his (medical) license
he has ~ and can no longer practice
surrender (unlicensed) firearms
the Interior Ministry appealed to citizens to ~
surrendered its artistic freedom
criticism the opera house had ~ (to Muslims)

possession: military / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: military / verb

survivor (person)

political survivor
she is a shrewd ~ (German Chancellor)

survival, persistence & endurance: person
resiliency: person

person: death & life

suspended

suspended between modernity and the Middle Ages
Casablanca is ~

configuration: pendulum
division & connection: pendulum

swallow (accept)

swallow
take as much sovereignty as you can ~ (Yeltsin)
a “conflict” is easier to ~ than a war

swallowed his story hook, line and sinker
I ~ (army recruiter)

hard to swallow
the results of such a study are ~
♦ "If it means swallowing some humble pie, and it means eating some of
your words, I can't think of a more excellent diet." (Prime Minister David
Cameron, on his coalition government formed with the Liberal
Democrats.)

acceptance & rejection: stomach / throat / verb
collection: food & drink / verb

swallow (disappearance)

swallowed him up
the streets ~ real quick (Detroit crime)
the sea just ~, queer... (Moby Dick)

swallowed (two unoccupied) cars
a sinkhole ~ in Seattle (broken main)

swallow huts
sand dunes threatened to ~ (desertification in Niger)

swallowed them
always the jungle rose and ~ (villages, civilizations)

sinkhole swallowed
a ~ a sewer-repair truck (Portland);
a ~ two unoccupied cars in Seattle (broken water main)

appearance & disappearance: bodily process / verb

swallowed

swallowed whole
the company’s promises would be ~ by most of the
technology press

acceptance & rejection: stomach / throat
collection: food & drink

swamp (verb)

swamp Tibet with (Chinese) migrants
our main concern is that the railway will ~ (Qinghai-Tibet
Railway)

amount & effect: boat / verb / water / wave
movement: water / verb / wave
swamp (fever swamp)

fever swamp of the alt-right
this is sort of the ~ (books of a conspiracy theorist)
online fever swamps
they dredge up wild beliefs from ~ (a podcast)
♦ "This game has all the qualities of a neglected pond, turgid, stagnant and honking." (A disgruntled fan, about a Champions League final.)
environment: ground, terrain & land / swamp / water
corruption: ground, terrain & land / swamp / water
swamp (drain the swamp)
drain the swamp
he promised to ~ of Congress
Twitter tries to ~ (trolls)
amelioration & renewal: swamp / verb / water
corruption: swamp / verb / water
swamped
swamped by criticism
BP has been ~ as the oil leak gushes (in Gulf of Mexico)
swamped with patients
the VA is ~ with hearing problems
get swamped
you can ~ on every single issue (government)
amount & effect: boat / water
swan song
swan song
it was the restaurant's ~ (celebration of bankruptcy)
starting, going, continuing & ending: animal / bird / sound
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: animal / bird / sound
swarm (verb)
swarming
lawyers are ~
swarm around foreigners
children and grown men ~ (Cox's Bazar)
swarms with pilgrims
during the week before Christmas Lalibela ~ (Ethiopia)
swarming the city
security guards are ~ (Olympics)
swarmed the playground
the children ~ (opening ceremony)
♦ In a delightful "Talk of the Town" article in The New Yorker, Michael Schulman points out that New Yorkers "swarm" for things like "flash mobs, Occupy Wall Street, the cronut line." His article is about actual swarms and how New York City's finest deal with them. ("Law and Order: Bee Cops," September 17, 2013.)
activity: animal / insect / verb
behavior: animal / insect / verb
amount & effect: animal / insect / verb

swarm (noun)
"swarm tactics"
~ will be used to overrun the enemy (Iraqi Freedom)
swarm of (citizen) complaints
the noise has prompted a ~
swarms of particles
the comet sheds ~ as it nears the sun (Leonids)
swarms of protestors
the meetings of the World Bank have drawn ~
swarms of shoppers
the nation's malls opened to ~ (holiday season)
swarm of tornadoes
a ~ and powerful thunderstorms belted the area
a devastating ~ left four people dead (Texas)
“swarm” of tremors
a ~ were felt last year (earthquakes in Surrey)
♦ The wonderful writer Carol Kaesuk Yoon has reported that in 1875 a swarm of Rocky Mountain locusts formed the largest recorded locust swarm in recorded history, 1,800 miles long and 110 miles wide... Just twenty-eight years later, the Rocky Mountain locust was extinct. The last live locust was collected in 1902, and today the only way scientists can study them is to examine the carcasses of those locusts blown off course and preserved in glaciers.
activity: animal / insect
amount & effect: animal / insect
behavior: animal / insect
sweat (feeling)
made to sweat
the US side was ~ by the French (close US soccer victory)
feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process
sweeping
sweeping change
the report called for ~ (shuttle safety)
there is not yet a groundswell of support for ~
sweeping curve
the ~ directly upstream of the falls (river)
sweeping impact
the ~ of fire on the sagebrush plains
sweeping (U.N.) resolution
a ~ against terrorist financing
extent & scope: pendulum
sweepstakes (win the sweepstakes)
temperamental sweepstakes
if you are impervious to self-doubt, you have won the ~
won the (temperamental) sweepstakes
if you are impervious to self-doubt, you have ~
success & failure: gambling
sweet (personality)

sweet dreams
you hug her and kiss her and wish her ~

sweet personality
her ~ has made her a lot of friends (exchange student)
sweet-charactered (m)
a suitable and ~ girl
sweet-faced (m)
a TV show filled with ~ young men
sweet-tempered (m)
a ~ boy
cute, sophisticated and sweet
fashion to make her feel ~ (adolescents)

character & personality: taste

sweetheart (vocative)
sweetheart
hey, ~
vocative: heart / taste

sweetheart (other)
sweetheart
baby, won't you be my ~
high school sweetheart
she wed ~ Bobby
high-school sweetheart
they had been ~s
kiss of my sweetheart
the tender ~ on my cheek

heart: taste

sweet spot
looking for a sweet spot
a happy medium, something in between, they are ~

flaw & lack of flaws: allusion

swell (verb)
swollen in South Carolina
welfare rolls have ~
swelled enrollment from 1,500 to 2,100
a marketing push that has ~ (school)
swelled to (nearly) 8,000
by the 1940s, the number of fire lookouts had ~
swelled to (more than) 1 million
the population ~ (Everglades alligators)
swelled by (another) 1 million
the capital of 1.3 million had ~ (Kabul)
swelled beyond (official) estimates

struggling to help a group that has ~(immigrants)

population swelled
the ~ to more than 1 million (Everglades alligators)

numbers swelled
as their ~ to 437,000 (adjuncts)

ranks swell
their ~ out of sympathy (radicals)

staff swells
its ~ to 400 with the approach of summer

increase & decrease: size / verb

swept away (emotion)
swept away
he's ~ (drummer on a giant elk-skin drum)

feeling, emotion & effect: river / sea / water

swept away (removal)
swept away
the old order was ~ (Russian revolution)

dismissal, removal & resignation: river / sea / water

swim (verb)
swim or sink
we are going to ~ together (revitalizing Detroit / 2010)

survival, persistence & endurance: water / verb

swing (take a swing)
took a swing at BP
the President ~ (oil slick)

conflict: boxing / verb

swing (in full swing)
in full swing
the economic recovery is ~
the fire season is ~

activity: pendulum
starting, going, continuing & ending: pendulum
extent & scope: pendulum

swing (swing around)
swung around
this thing has ~ (losing boxing wins round)

reversal: pendulum

devolution: direction

swing (development)

swing state
Iowa is a ~

development: pendulum
swirl (verb)
swirling
questions are ~, “What happened” (murder of woman)
swirl around him
allegations continue to ~ (cheating, etc.)
swirling for two years
these allegations have been ~ (politics)
swirled for decades
rumors have ~ (assassination)
continue to swirl
question ~ around Boeing after two deadly air crashes
continues to swirl
the mystery ~ about exactly what happened (crime)

activity: movement / verb / water
initiation: movement / verb / water

swoon (verb)
swooning over the (new) products
retailers are ~ (trade fair)
swoon over the (artistic) renderings
architects still ~ (an eco-city)
swoon for him
Romney will never get voters to ~ (election)
caused critics to swoon
the band has ~

attraction & repulsion: love, courtship & marriage / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: love, courtship & marriage / verb

sword (double-edged sword)
double-edged sword of biotechnology
the ~ (germ warfare)

feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword / verb

sword (two-edged sword)
two-edged sword
it’s a ~ (injuries during football practices)
freedom of choice can be a ~ (too many choices)

feeling, emotion & effect: blade / sword / verb

sword (fate)
sword
the whole agency has a ~ hanging over it (INS)

fate, fortune & chance: blade / sword

Sword of Damocles
Sword of Damocles
it’s a ~, and it’s hanging over our head
there’s a ~ hanging over lawmakers for the next 3 weeks (reform)

fate, fortune & chance: allusion / blade / sword

sword (violence)
sword
the pen is mightier than the ~
he who lives by the ~ dies by the sword

violation: sword

swordfish
swordfish
tuna, ~, and marlin are almost gone (overfishing)

proper name / resemblance: sword

symphony (noun)
symphony of frogs
the sound of thunder competes with a ~ (Yucatán)
symphony of croaking, grunting, barking, chirping, we listened to a spectacular ~ and squeaking (rain forest)

sound: music / symphony
resemblance: music / sound / symphony

symptom
symptom of changing times
another ~
symptom of a (much wider) pathology
he is a ~ infecting the entire system (Chinese politics)

evidence: health & medicine

synch (in synch)
in synch with the president’s
his hawkish ideas are ~

unanimity & consensus: tools & technology
system (circulatory system)
circulatory system of the global economy
companies like Maersk underpin the ~ (NotPetya worm)
branching system: blood

T

table (on the table)
on the table
is the offer still ~ (employment)
all options are going to be ~ (diplomatic and military)
all of this needs to be ~ and part of the discussion
position, policy & negotiation: table

table (under the table)
pay employees under the table
some employers ~ to escape taxes
subterfuge: direction / table

table (bring something to the table)
brings a lot to the table
she ~ (employee)
worth & lack of worth: table / verb

table (come back to the table)

come back to the table
so is your company ready to ~ (negotiate)
position, policy & negotiation: table / verb
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: table / verb

table (off the table)

off the table
freedom of speech is ~
take it off the table
there are good reasons not to ~ (to not use a chemical)
dismissal, removal & resignation: table

position, policy & negotiation: table

table (turn the tables)

turned the tables
China ~ and expressed its own complaints (diplomacy)
turned the tables on her tutor
she ~
reversal: table / verb

position, policy & negotiation: table / verb

---
table (inclusivity)

seat at the table
by the ’80s, the drive was on to claim a ~ (minority poets)
the defense industry should have a ~, but not own the table
table has been extended
the ~ but is still within establishment walls (poetry)

Inclusion & exclusion: table

table (Table Mountain, etc.)

Table Bay
~ was named after Table Mountain (Cape Town)

Table Island
~ has a flat top

Table Mountain
~ overlooks Cape Town (South Africa)

proper name: table
shape: table

 taboo

taboo of his era
he married a white woman, the ultimate ~ (boxer)
taboo against homosexuality
the ~
taboo against use
a longstanding, sitting & lying ~ of nuclear weapons except…
taboo in India
public displays of affection remain largely ~
taboo in Turkey
the subject is still ~ (Armenian genocide)
tabooes about (sexual) behavior
strong ~s… (in conservative Muslim areas)
taboo practice
~s tend to grow in popularity
taboo site
block access to ~s (Internet)
taboo subject
he found humor in ~s (comedian Richard Pryor)
he addressed such ~s as race and sexuality (Pryor)
taboo topic
raising taxes is a ~ (Republicans)
taboo and mysterious
people are attracted because it's so ~ (a sex act)
longstanding taboo
~ against use of nuclear weapons except…
cultural taboo
~s and scientific advancement (autopsies)
rape is a ~ in Sudan
few carry it out because of strong ~s (suicide / Korea)
moral taboos
the ~ associated with germ weapons
social taboo
homosexuality is considered a ~… (US high schools)
she challenged a ~ (Egyptian refused abortion)
strong taboos
~ about sexual behavior (in conservative Muslim areas)
ultimate taboo
he married a white woman, the ~ of his era (boxer)
for many people, anal sex is the ~
a bit of a taboo
asking somebody what they earn is ~ (in US)
carries a taboo
voodoo still ~ (New Orleans)
challenged a (social) taboo
she ~ (refused an abortion and filed a paternity suit)
considered taboo
women work, often alongside men, once ~ (Algeria)
♦ Captain James Cook may have introduced this word to the English language following his visit to Tonga. The Tongan word tabu or tapu means not allowed, forbidden.

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: religion
tack (verb)
tacked to the center
he has charted a new course and ~ (politician)
change tack
he decided to reverse these strikes, to ~ (military decision)
direction: boat / verb
tack (noun)
backward tack
I am embarrassed by the ~ of this administration
different tack
she took a ~ for her next project
direction: boat
tackle (verb)
tackle its (drug) gangs
Mexico needs to ~
tackle that issue
the administration will ~
tackle it
soccer must face up to this problem and ~ (fan racism)
tackle our problems
we need to ~ in a practical way (Obama)
tackle (big-ticket) problems
scientists and engineers used to ~

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: football / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping
action, inaction & delay: football / sports & games / verb / walking, running & jumping
tail (chase one's tail)
chasing our tails
we're just ~
progress & lack of progress: animal / dog / direction / verb
tail (turn tail)
turned tail on the issue
he has ~ (a politician)
dominance & submission: animal / verb
resistance, opposition & defeat: animal / verb
reversal: animal / verb
tail (orientation)
logistical tail
a ~ stretching hundreds of miles (war)
♦ Is it better to be the head of a donkey or the tail of a horse?
orientation: animal / direction
resemblance: animal
tail end (at the tail end)
tail end of my career
I'm at the ~ but… (boxer touting next fight)
starting, going, continuing & ending: animal
tailor (verb)
tailors its coverage to support
it ~ Hamas (TV network)
tailor drills to fit
~ the situation and terrain you will encounter (military)
tailor METT-TC to fit
creative leaders ~ each situation (military)
adapting: clothing & accessories / verb
amelioration & renewal: clothing & accessories / verb
tailspin (into a tailspin)
sent her into a tailspin
the news ~ (light sentence for her stalker)
throws the project into a tailspin
the vote ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement / plane
decline: movement / plane
tailspin (in a tailspin)
CNN is in a tailspin
~ (losing viewers)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement / plane
decline: movement / plane
tailwind (noun)

economic tailwind
the president is riding an ~

“...The president is riding an economic tailwind. The president is riding that tailwind very well... Any president as a pilot would be riding this tailwind, but for some reason this president can’t seem to stay long enough [chuckling] in the jet stream to ride the tailwind that he has in the economy. He goes off on tangent after tangent and doesn’t seem able to ride the economic boom that he’s sitting under because he just can’t maintain the discipline to do that. He does not ride the tailwind that he has.” (ABC News Chief Political Analyst Matthew Dowd, Sunday, May 5, 2018.)

help & assistance: plane / wind
taint (noun)
taint of a bankruptcy
the ~ can be poisonous
taint of (any serious) crime
the ~ can blight a family (Japan)
evidence: materials & substances
taint (verb)
tainted his data
his drug company financing ~ (doctor)
taint (a doctor’s or researcher’s) judgment
drug company ties can ~
taint his legacy
the revelations ~ (informant for FBI)
corruption: materials & substances / verb
tainted
tainted
the election was ~ (missing absentee ballots)
tainted by faulty methodology
scientists say his studies are ~ (autism)
tainted by (government lawyers’) misconduct
the verdict was ~
tainted by torture
he though evidence was ~ (military lawyer)
evidence was tainted
he thought ~ by torture (military lawyer)
corruption: materials & substances
take (endure)
take it
I’m not going to ~ (abuse from boss)
take it any more
I can’t ~
took it on the chin
he ~ (arrested criminal refuses to snitch)
survival, persistence & endurance: force / verb
take (take somebody somewhere)
take us where
the investigation will ~ it takes us
took me to new heights
he ~ (sex)
directing: journeys & trips / verb
fictive transportation: journeys & trips / verb
takeaway (noun)
big takeaway
so give me the ~, what did you find (a new poll)
takeaway thoughts
are you left with any preliminary big ~ about what this means
analysis, interpretation & explanation: giving, receiving, bringing & returning
take down (verb)
taken down a who’s who
the fallout has ~ of the rich and connected (universities)
take them down
videos are shared before Facebook and YouTube can ~
curtailment: direction / verb
accusation & criticism: direction / sports & games / verb / wrestling
takedown (noun)
literary takedown
I love a good ~ (fact-checking, plagiarism, etc.)
curtailment: direction / verb
accusation & criticism: direction / sports & games / wrestling / verb
take off (verb)
take off
I think it's going to ~ great (a new directory)
taken off
none of these websites have ~ and caught fire (filtering)
take off all over the country
his business is starting to ~ (Novosibirsk)
took off in a big way
his business ~
sales (of luxury cars) have taken off
~ (in China)
take off (verb)
making e-reading take off
a Windows-compatible system will ~
growth & development: plane / flying & falling / verb

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 619 of 982
initiation: plane / flying & falling / verb
take on (verb)
take on the big banks
she has pledged to ~ (a candidate)
take on President Trump
a growing list of Democrats hope to ~ (election)
resistance, opposition & defeat: verb
talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
talent spotter for Iranian intelligence
she began working with a so-called ~ (American)
searching & discovery: person / theater
talk (trash talk)
trash talk (v)
they don't have to ~, they talk with their feet (NFL)
trash talk (n)
the ~ escalated to violence
trash talking
months of ~ and hype preceded the boxing match
♦ In Smithsonian (June 2011) there is a page showing a pretty, smiling young woman sitting behind a pile of trash consisting of empty plastic bottles. The page is titled “TRASH TALK” and points the reader to an article on sustainable development.
speech: waste
insult: speech / waste
talk (sweet talk)
sweet talk
just don't believe the ~ (from bar girls)
speech: taste
talk (talk somebody through something)
talk us through this
~, why... (explain)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: speech / verb	
tame (verb)
tame a (schoolyard) bully
how to ~
tame the deficit
we need to ~
tame a (rabies) outbreak
the authorities are trying to ~
tame a (great) river
it's impossible to ~ (floods)
tame her urge
she can't ~ to go shopping
tamed the Wild West
Google has ~ of copyright infringement
control & lack of control: animal / verb
behavior: animal / verb
amelioration & renewal: animal / verb	
tame (adjective)
renders the munition tame
high heat ~ (mustard agent)
attenuation: animal	
tangent (on a tangent)
grew off on a tangent
he ~ (conversation)
speech: geometry
tap (verb)
tap this anger
he wants to ~, feed it and nurture it (politics)
tap your creativity
we want to ~
tap the talent
the agency wants to ~ of people who...
tapped the vein
he has ~ of popular outrage over... (politician)
tap, feed and nurture
he wants to ~ this anger (politician appeals to base)
access & lack of access: water / verb
tap (noun)
taps turned off
the ~ (money for refinancing loans)
access & lack of access: water
tap (on tap)
on tap
is there currently any legislation ~ that addresses this
on tap for tomorrow
heavy rain is ~ (weather forecast)
on tap for the South
more heavy rain ~
future: water
tap into (verb)
tapped into people's distrust
his ideas ~ of government (vaccinations)
tap into funding
the president will ~ from other government agencies
tap into (new) markets
we are seeking to ~
tap into the reservoir
the militants can ~ of submerged hatred towards the West
tapped into a (long-standing millenarianism) tradition
he ~ (Hong Xiuquan of the Taiping Rebellion)

**access & lack of access: water / verb**

**tapestry (noun)**

melting pot, a (beautiful) tapestry, or a salad bowl
is the United States a ~
mixture: carpets & rugs / cloth

**identity & nature: carpets & rugs / cloth**

**tar (tar and feather, etc.)**

tar Trump as an anti-Semite
many liberal American Jews have tried to ~
tarring Trump with the same brush
she is ~ that Trump used to tar Obama

**accusation & criticism: verb / violence**

**punishment & recrimination: verb / violence**

**speech: verb / violence**

**target (verb)**

target them towards children
the government will stockpile flu shots and ~
target the behaviors
rewards should ~ you would like to encourage

**target: weapon / verb**

**target (noun)**

target
every policeman is a ~
targets of anger
family, friends and the health team are often ~ (the dying)
target of a bully
being the ~ is not pleasant
target of (barracks) humor
his innocence makes him the ~ (soldiers)
target of an investigation
he was the ~ by the commission (corruption)
targets of jealousy
Native American athletes risk becoming the ~
targets of a (domestic-terrorism) probe
~ by the FBI
targets of revenge
judges sometimes become ~
target of the (war's) supporters
the interview made Arnett a ~ (Iraq War)
target of prejudice or (physical) harm
fear of becoming a ~ (gays in sports)
target of (would-be) illegal immigrants
Melilla is a major ~ (Morocco)
targets of bullying
students who are ~ (grade 6-10)
targets of (last week's) rioting
the ~ included…
target of kidnappings and killings
the family has been the ~ (Colombia)
targets for (violent) individuals
government agencies are often ~
target for (future human) exploration
asteroids are a tempting ~
targets for (violent) perpetrators
the elderly are easy ~
targets for poachers
panhandler bears become easy ~
targets for (negative) stereotypes
they are easy ~ (Irish Travelers)
targets for (reparations) lawsuits
companies that are potential ~ (US)
target audience
the ~
target date
fund the project to completion by the ~ of 2030
target demographic
its ~ of Jews in their twenties
target disease
tetanus is one of the ~s of the WHO (neonatal)
target genes
he's focusing on ~ for schizophrenia
target populations
~ such as school-age children (public health)
target pressure
pop-off valves set to the ~ (hyperbaric chamber)
tempting target
~s for future human exploration (asteroids)
earnings target
the company announced it would miss its ~
enlistment target
the Navy fell short of its ~
takeover target
smaller companies are easy ~
main target
their ~s were…(looters following eruption)
numerical target
we are not setting ~s for what they should buy
potential targets
companies that are ~ for reparations lawsuits (US)
visible target
  he made himself a ~ (arrested)

become targets
  judges sometimes ~ of revenge

indicated the target
  a yellow arrow ~ (BASE jump / landing zone)

zoom in on targets
  the cameras can ~ 3 miles away (Newark / police)

**target: weapon**

**target (moving target)**

moving target
  it’s a ~ (trying to calculate loss due to plane groundings)

success & failure: weapon
target: weapon

**target (hit the target)**

hit all its targets
  the company has ~

success & failure: target / verb / weapon
target (miss the target, etc.)

fell short of its (enlistment) target
  the Navy fell short of its ~

miss its (earnings) target
  the company announced it would ~

missing its teacher recruitment targets
  the government is ~

success & failure: target / verb / weapon
target (easy target)

easy (takeover) targets
  smaller companies are ~

easy target
  the elderly are ~ for violent perpetrators;
  panhandler bears become ~s for poachers
  they look at you as an ~ (young men in prison)

difficulty, easiness & effort: target / weapon

protection & lack of protection: target / weapon

**target date**

target date of 2030
  fund the project to completion by the ~

timeliness & lack of timeliness: target / weapon

**targeted**

targeted (radiation) treatment
  a ~ (for breast cancer)

**tarnish (verb)**

tarnishes the badge
  this ~ we all wear proudly on our chests (bad cop)

tarnished the image
  many lawyers believed that he ~ of the profession

tarnished the country's image
  the government has ~ abroad

tarnished his reputation
  his massive accumulation of wealth ~ (politician)

tarnishes his reputation
  admitting to drug use ~ (an athlete)

tarnished his victory
  allegations of fraud ~ (elections)

attenuation: light & dark / verb

corruption: light & dark / verb

failure, accident & impairment: light & dark / verb

tarnished

tarnished by allegations
  his legacy is ~ he… (a boxer)

tarnished by (doping) scandals
  it is the latest black mark on a sport that has been ~

tarnished reputation
  this little film cleans the ~ of romantic comedies

reputation is (forever) tarnished
  now his ~ (a professional athlete)

attenuation: light & dark

corruption: light & dark

failure, accident & impairment: light & dark

taste (taste freedom, etc.)

taste abuse
  she may also ~ (women who work abroad)

tasted defeat
  he has ~ before (a boxer)

taste a freedom
  a woman may ~ from familial duties (abroad)

♦ Revenge tastes sweet.

experience: food & drink / taste / verb

consumption: food & drink / taste / verb

**taste (taste of freedom, etc.)**

taste of what
  get a ~ Native Americans went through… (smallpox)

taste of (hostile) fire
  they were getting their first ~ (marines)

taste of freedom
  I wanted a ~

taste of home
taste of (cowboy) life
Americans seeking a ~
taste of regret
the bitter ~ (bad decisions)
taste of (business) success
a ~
taste of winter
western North Carolina gets ~ (snow showers, cold)
taste of acting
he got his first ~ when he was twelve years old
taste of (local) Fijian culture
we got our ~

bitter taste
the ~ of regret (bad decisions)

first taste
he got his ~ of acting when he was twelve years old

got our (first) taste
we ~ of local Fijian culture

seeking a taste
Americans ~ of cowboy life

wanted a taste
1 ~ of freedom

experience: food & drink / taste
amount: food & drink / taste
corporation: food & drink / taste
taste (taste for violence, etc.)
taste for it
you have to have a real ~ (a culinary occupation)
taste for violence
women have developed a ~ (books, films)
taste for flashy cars
he displayed a ~ and elaborate mansions
taste for rice beer
elephants have developed a ~ (Guwahati)
taste for fighting
I've always had a ~ (a gang member)
consumer tastes
a new trend in ~
movie tastes
software to track ~ (Blockbuster)

higher-priced tastes
they seemed to have more money and ~ (Tulane)
acquiring a taste
nomads are ~ for the settled life (Saudi Arabia)
displayed a taste

he ~ for flashy cars and big mansions
developed a taste
elephants have ~ for rice beer (Guwahati);
he ~ for akpeteshi, palm-wine moonshine (Ghana)
had a taste
I've always ~ for fighting (a gang member)

lost its taste
England has not ~ for the fight (boxing)

lose her taste
she seemed to ~ for the game (injured athlete)


cater to all tastes
Sydney can ~ (sex)

enthusiasm: food & drink / taste
consumption: food & drink / taste
wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink / taste
taste (in good taste, etc.)
in good taste
I think it is ~ (athletes' fashions)

judgment: food & drink / taste
taste (judgment)
taste in décor
weight, wardrobe and ~ (hot-button issues for women)
taste in music
if you're unsure about his ~… (dating advice)
taste in popular culture
African-American girlfriends influenced Mankiller's ~
tastemaker
her authority as a ~

expensive taste
she was style conscious and had ~

personal taste
placement is a matter of ~ and preference (piercing)

events for every taste
there are ~… (concerts, contests / Sturgis biker rally)

judgment and taste
he revealed questionable ~

cultivate a (less conformist) taste
give her the courage to ~ (teens)

shown much taste
nor has McKenzie ~ in new repertory (A.B.T.)

judgment: food & drink / taste
taste (a bad taste, etc.)
bitter taste
the ~ of regret (bad decisions)

sour taste
this has left a ~ (bad sportsmanship)
erased the (sour-milk) taste
helped by a bullpen that ~ of Friday's loss

leaves a bad taste in one's mouth
but this ~ especially if

corruption: food & drink / taste
flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink / taste

consumption: food & drink / taste
feeling, emotion & effect: food & drink / taste

condition & status: cloth / clothing & accessories
failure, accident & impairment: cloth / clothing & accessories
flaws & lack of flaws: cloth / clothing & accessories

tattlers (in tatters)
left in tatters
the party has been ~

taxing (adjective)
taxing
the job was extremely ~
difficulty, easiness & effort: money

T-bone (verb)
T-boned me
a semi-truck ran through a stop sign and ~

T-boned my mother's car
the teen ran a stop sign and ~

T-boned by a drunk
I was ~ on Christmas (in a car)

T-boned by a dump truck
five years ago, I was ~

T-boned a semi-truck
a stop sign and ~

Teapot (internet teapot, etc.)

internet teapots
the tempest of these controversies remains confined to ~

Tear apart (verb)
tore apart her (tidy) life
war ~ (a Serb in Kosovo)
tear the social fabric apart
the stress of collapsing economies can ~

destruction: breaking / verb

tear up (verb)
tear up the treaty
the president wants to ~

destruction: breaking / verb

tease out (verb)
tease that out
let's ~ (talk radio)
tease out what
well, let's try to ~ that might mean (talk radio)

Analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb

tectonic (adjective)
tectonic plates
the ~ of French politics have shifted (Marine Le Pen)
tectonic (paradigm) shift
this is an enormous, ~

extent & scope: earthquake
amount & effect: earthquake

teddy bear

teddy bear
he’s a ~
♦ *The phrase relates to a cartoon of Theodore Roosevelt sparing the life of a bear cub while hunting.

caracter & personality: hardness & softness
tee off (verb)
teed off an advertising boycott
the tapes have ~ (politics)

starting, going, continuing & ending: sports & games / verb
teeter (verb)
teetering on the brink
the factory is ~ of insolvency
the country is ~ of default (Greece / economy)
the world was ~ of war

teeters on the edge
the air travel network ~ of collapse

fate, fortune & chance: equilibrium & stability / verb
teeth (in / into the teeth of)
in the teeth of these (challenging) times
but ~ (politics, economy)
into the teeth of a storm
the ship sailed ~ they knew was coming (Viking Sky)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: teeth
danger: teeth
teeth (take the teeth out)
taken the teeth out of the law
they have ~ (no mechanism for enforcement)

force: animal / teeth
strength & weakness: animal / teeth
attenuation: animal / teeth / verb
teeth (to the teeth)
armed to the teeth
they are ~

extent & scope: teeth
teeth (force)
teeth
the regulations must have enough ~ (enforcement)
teeth of the defense
he ran right into the ~ (football game)
lack teeth
the so-called reforms ~ and will do little

force: animal / teeth
strength & weakness: animal / teeth
teeth (kick in the teeth)
kick in the teeth
it’s been a real ~

feeling, emotion & effect: foot / teeth
teeth (gnash one’s teeth)
gnashing their teeth
Democrats are ~ (third-party candidacy could split their vote)

feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process / teeth / verb
teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
sink my teeth into
I wanted a role that I could really ~ (actor)
sink my teeth into something
I’m a pit bull, I ~ and don’t let go (crime investigator)

commitment & determination: animal / dog
involvement: food & drink / meat / teeth / verb
substance & lack of substance: food & drink / meat / teeth / verb
consumption: food & drink / verb

teething
teating issues
there are always new ~ (very young airplanes)

growth & development: baby / teeth
tell (data can tell us something, etc.)
tell
a skin test is the only way to ~ if you have TB infection
tells everyone
a tie ~, “I respect you, my job, and myself” (an opinion)
told me
my experience has ~ that...
tell us
what did the data ~ at the time (investigation)

analysis, interpretation & explanation: speech / verb
fictive communication: speech / verb
telling
telling
the terms used were ~ (G-20 negotiations)
telling sign
that’s a ~ (beaten boxer clinches)
evidence: speech

temperature (raise the temperature)
raise the temperature of public debate
questions over rights ~ (gay students)
tempest (noun)

tempest
this ~ has already swept away governments (economy)
tempest of these controversies
the ~ remains confined to a handful of internet teapots
international tempest
the report caused an ~

amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind

tempestuous (adjective)

mutually tempestuous
their relationship was ~

flaws & lack of flaws: atmosphere / storm / wind

tendril (resemblance)

tendrils of mist
~ were wrapping across the top of Lhotse (Everest)
dark little tendrils
gray-green clouds dropped virga in ~ (mountains)

resemblance: plant
tendril (growth)

tendrils of (international) terror
efforts to find the ~ in the US
branching system: plant
extent & scope: plant
growth & development: plant
tent (fold one's tent)

fold our tents
we don't ~ and run… (prosecutors vs. appeals)
fold its tents
many think the football program should quietly ~

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: tent / verb
commitment & determination: tent / verb
tent (inclusivity)

bigger tent
a narrow definition of bluegrass versus a ~ (inclusion)
fighting for the Methodist Church to become a ~ (gays)
big-tent philosophy
we no long want to espouse a ~ (political party)
big-tent-theology
the Methodist Church has always been a ~ church
inside the tent
they were glad to be back “~” (consulted by government)
outside the tent
better to observe him there than have him ~ (government)

inside or outside the tent
does she want him ~ (government)

“Bring everyone in and shut no one out, take no one for granted, write nobody off. So I’m for everyone.” (The politician Beto O’Rourke.)

Inclusion & exclusion: tent
tentacle

network's tentacles
the ~ reached far (human-organ trafficking)

extent & scope: arm
tepid
tepid

support for the proposed center is ~
reaction to the president's speech was ~ at best
public support for it is decidedly ~ (impeachment)
tepid support
the proposed change won his ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
termite (noun)
termite (noun)

termite (noun)

termites
he has referred to Muslims as ~ who need to be wiped out

violence: animal / insect
terrain (area)
terrain (area)

terrain (area)
terrain
they have shown themselves adept at navigating the ~
native terrain
his ~ is modern Britain (a filmmaker)
changing terrain
the deal highlights the ~ as investors adjust
master much terrain
a contemporary musician must ~

area / environment: ground, terrain & land
terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
dangerous terrain
management is stepping into ~ (NPR fires Juan Williams)
difficult terrain
the Midwest, with its job losses, is ~ for Democrats
she explores ~, including her husband’s death (a writer)
rocky terrain
she adeptly negotiated the ~ of the NYC publishing world

flaws & lack of flaws: ground, terrain & land
danger: ground, terrain & land
terrain (known and unknown terrain)
terrain (known and unknown terrain)
familiar terrain
the farther you travel from the ~ of the legacy world
new terrain
the Emmys have entered ~ (backstage Webcasts)

**area:** direction / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map

**certainty & uncertainty:** direction / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map

territory (known and unknown territory)

familiar territory
they are heading into ~, an important division game (sports)

uncharted territory
we're in ~ in terms of predicting his recovery… (coma)
sending public opinion into ~

unknown territory
he was at 62, ~ for a man who'd never won (golf)

**area:** direction / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map

**certainty & uncertainty:** direction / ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map

territory (with the territory)

come with its territory
his book avoids the pitfalls that ~ (a biography)

come with the territory
getting blamed ~ (a basketball coach)
this ~ when you work in a hospital (long hours)

go with the territory
some people are skeptical, but that ~ (diplomacy)

**presence & absence:** ground, terrain & land

territory (assigned area)

home territory
cell-phone users outside their ~s

outside their (home) territories

cell-phone users ~

**area:** ground, terrain & land

territory (stake out territory)

stake out new territory
as Microsoft tries to ~

**possession:** ground, terrain & land

territory (area)

vast territory
the ~ between the extremes has been bridged (book retailing)

**area / environment:** ground, terrain & land

test (stress test)
stress test
banks must take a ~ (check finances in case of crisis)

**condition & status:** health & medicine

tethered
tethered to their computers
doctors and nurses are ~ (criticism of healthcare)

**attachment:** rope
ty

thanks (noun)
thanks to (two) headers
the Dutch reached the semis ~ in the second half (soccer)
thanks to TikTok
the song’s massive blowup is partially ~

**help & assistance:** speech / verb to noun

thaw (verb)
thaw
the freeze began to ~ when… (relations)

amelioration & renewal: snow & ice / temperature / verb

thaw (noun)
thaw in relations
the border will reopen after a ~ (Burma and Thailand)
the 2 leaders promised a ~ (Saudi / Iran)

amelioration & renewal: snow & ice / temperature

theater (performance)
negotiation theater
it looks serious, but it might just be ~ (trade talks)
diplomatic theater
it provided ~ of the most electrifying kind (UN)

political theater
going out your popcorn, get ready for ~ today (hearing)
the vote was a bit of ~

♦ "All the world’s a stage, / And all the men and women merely players; / They have their exits and their entrances..." (Shakespeare, As You Like It.)

**performance:** theater

theater (appearance)

theater and hot air
many thought him all ~ (national leader)

appearance & reality: theater

theater of the absurd
theater of the absurd
call this this is, which is a ~ (California governor vs. Trump)

fantasy & reality: theater

theatrics (noun)
cheap "theatrics"
the ~ (politics)
**performance:** theater

**there (there for me, etc.)**

there for me
the community was ~ (in time of grief)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle**

there (destination)
not there yet
we’re ~ (resolution of trauma)

**progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / movement / prep, adv, adj, particle**

thermometer (noun)
thermometer
a feeling, a ~, a temperature reading of what is happening (a poll)

**measurement: temperature / tools & technology**

thick (in the thick of things)
in the thick of things
she was right ~ (government response to Katrina)

**involvement: ground, terrain & land**

thicket (noun)
thicket of bureaucracy
they have created a ~ (a government agency)
dense thicket
Netflix is trying to navigate a ~ of challenges

**regulatory thicket**
the government wants to set up a ~

**obstacles & impedance: ground, terrain & land**

thick-skinned
thick-skinned
I’m ~ so it doesn’t bother me
tough and thick-skinned
New Yorkers are thought to be ~
tough, thick-skinned (m)
he is known as a ~ leader

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

thing (fad, etc.)
thing
today is bubble wrap appreciation day, yes, it’s a ~ (ABC)
♦ This echoes the old cliché, “The next big thing…”

**attention, scrutiny & promotion: object**

thing (one's thing)
my thing
hockey is ~

**enthusiasm: object**

thin (breadth)
razor-thin
the election was decided by a ~ margin

**size: breadth**
thin-skinned
thin-skinned
he is ~, prone to ill-advised eruptions
he was abnormally ~ when it came to criticism
writers can be ~
thin-skinned about criticism
he is ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: sensation / skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

thirst (noun)

thirst for energy
Canada helps quench America’s ~ (oil exports)
thirst for knowledge
his collection hinted at his ~
thirst for revenge
the suicide bombers are driven by a ~
a ~, religious zeal and dreams of glory (suicide bombers)
thirst for oil and gas
China has a bottomless ~ (Xinjiang Province)
thirst for the vulgar and obscene
our ~ seems unquenchable (U$)
America’s thirst
Canada helps quench ~ for energy (oil exports)
ever-increasing thirst
the world’s ~ for oil
bottomless thirst
China has a ~ for oil and gas (Xinjiang Province)
quench (America’s) thirst
Canada helps ~ for energy (oil exports)

**consumption / wants, needs, hopes & goals: food & drink**

thorn
thorn in (Polish-Soviet) relations

---

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 628 of 982
the massacre has been a ~ for decades (Katyn Forests)
thorn of terrorism
  the ~ has been removed today (death of al-Zarqawi)
thorn in our side
  Samarra has been a little bit of a ~ (military)
thorn in Mr. Bush's side
  he is a ~ (Al Gore)

♦ You don’t harvest grapes from planting thorns. (Arab proverb.)

affliction: plant
thorny

thorny issue
  ~s remain a source of tension (diplomacy)
thorny topic
  the president tackled the ~ of immigration

affliction: plant
flaws & lack of flaws: plant
thrash (verb)
thrashed Saudi Arabia
  Russia ~ (World Cup soccer)
hitting, slamming & lashing: verb / violence / whip
thrashed

thrashe

thread (verb)
threaded itself into the fabric
  the gang has ~ of the village
division & connection: cloth / verb
thread (by a thread)
hanging on by a thread
  we were ~ (money problems and bills)
hanging on to my job by a thread
  I'm ~
hang by a thread
  their hopes of advancing ~ (tournament)
hanging by a thread
  his career is ~
fate, fortune & chance: cloth

threshold (cross the threshold)
crossed the threshold into a new dimension
  Sputnik ~
crossed a threshold to extinction
  lizards have already ~ (global warming)
portal: doors & thresholds / verb
threshold (below the threshold)
live below the (poverty) threshold
  75 percent of adults ~ of $1 a day (World Bank)
measurement: doors & thresholds
threshold (on the threshold)
on the threshold of their futures
  they were literally ~ (guy kills his girlfriend)
proximity: doors & thresholds
threshold (portal)
threshold to the grave
  nursing homes are viewed as the ~
portal: doors & thresholds
threshold (measurement)
threshold for lead poisoning
  lead levels in their blood were four times the ~
threshold of old age
  typically 60 or 65 years is considered the ~
threshold of $1 a day
  75 percent live below the World Bank's poverty ~
epidemic threshold
  the number of weekly cases exceeded the ~ of 237
panic threshold

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 629 of 982
their ~ is higher... (solo sailors don’t panic easily)

poverty threshold
75 percent live below the World Bank’s ~ of $1 a day

below the threshold
help keep tensions between nations ~ of conflict

low (pain) threshold
if you have a ~, don’t get a tattoo at the base of your spine

lower threshold
a ~ for admission should be considered (the elderly)

four times the threshold
lead levels in their blood were ~ for lead poisoning

threshold is reached
salt added to water will dissolve until a ~

exceeds a threshold
if the level ~ set by the system…

lower the (seizure) threshold
the drugs ~ and should be used cautiously

measurement: doors & thresholds

thrive (verb)
thrived at the company
he ~
thrive under (enormous) pressure
some people are able to ~ (jobs)
thrives on sensationalism
the media ~

growth & development: plant / verb

throat (resemblance)
shredder throat
insert paper into the ~ (paper shredder)
insert paper into the (shredder) throat
~ (paper shredder)

resemblance / shape: throat

throat (ram something down the throat)
ramp the reform down our throats
the government tried to ~

oppression: throat / verb

throat (predation)
going for your throat
this isn’t a joke, she’s ~

predation: throat

throat (Devil’s Throat, etc.)
Devil’s Throat
~ is a must (Iguazu Falls)

proper name: throat

throat (jump down someone’s throat)
she jumped down my throat
~ when I told her...

speech: throat / verb

throne (Blondie’s Throne, etc.)
Blondie’s Throne
~ is a flowstone (Marvel Cave, Missouri)
Devils Throne
~ is a summit in Idaho
Vulcans Throne
~ is a summit in Mohave County, Arizona
Vulcan's Throne
~ is a cinder cone volcano (Grand Canyon)
Great White Throne
the ~ is in Zion National park, Utah

proper name: royalty

throne (power)
contenders to the throne
there are many ~ (to replace sick leader)

power behind the (home-video) throne
he is a ~ (DVD producer)

power: royalty

throne (in line for the throne)
in line for the throne
she is ~ (a fashion designer)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty

throne (pretender to the throne)
pretender to the throne of (champion) Jack Dempsey
he is the French heavyweight ~

chief pretender to the throne
he reigns as king, or at least ~ (sportswriter of a horse)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: royalty

throne (primacy)
challenger to their throne
the Celtics rebuffed a ~ (sports)

contender for Nadal’s throne
he has established himself as a ~ (tennis)

 perch atop the throne
he may soon lose his ~ (a baseball pitcher)

reigned his throne
Humpty Dumpty has ~ (the egg as a healthy product)

yielded the throne
the old guard has ~ (world soccer)
knocked off the throne
he has been ~ (a tennis player)

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

**throw (throw oneself into something)**

threw herself into piano lessons
she ~

threw herself into renovating
she ~ the space (art gallery)

**involvement:** throwing, putting & planting / verb

**throwback (noun)**

throwback to the past
when he talks about crime, it can sound like a ~ (politician)

throwback to an earlier time
he is a ~

throwback to the 1890s
Dawson City is a ~

vaudeville throwback
a U.S.O. tour is a raunchy ~ (US military)

**past & present:** direction

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

**throw out (verb)**

threw out the (rape) conviction
the court ~ of…

threw him out
her father ~

thrown out of court
he is seeing to get the criminal case ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation:** arm / verb

**throwing, putting & planting:** arm / verb

**thrust (verb)**

thrust him into the (national) spotlight
his heroics ~

thrust into the spotlight
I was ~ (Miss USA and the Haiti earthquake)

**throwing, putting and planting:** mechanism / verb

**thumb (under the thumb)**

under the thumb of a Stalinist regime
the people of Basra are ~

under her father's thumb
back ~

**oppression:** thumb

**thumbs-down**

thumbs-down on the proposal
stockholders turned ~

**judgment:** gesture / hand

**thumbs-up**

thumbs-up
the spectacle gets a ~

thumbs-up reviews
the technology is getting largely ~ (computers)

**judgment:** gesture / hand

**thunder (sound)**

thunder of ice
the ~ going out (spring ice-out)

muffled thunder
the ~ of their horses' hooves

**resemblance:** sound: storm

**thunder (steal thunder, etc.)**

steal our thunder
it will ~ (a double wedding)

steal much thunder
it was a tough weekend for a tennis player to ~

stolen so much of baseball's thunder
the NFL has ~ (viewership and interest)

**attention, scrutiny & promotion:** storm

**thunder (speech)**

thundered that
he ~ God was the answer (a rally)

**speech:** sound / storm / verb

**resemblance:** storm / verb

**thunderbolt (noun)**

hurled thunderbolts
he ~ at his own party (a politician)

**accusation & criticism:** storm

**thunderclap**

thunderclap
the new analysis served as a ~

legal thunderclap
a ~

**attention, scrutiny & promotion:** storm

**thunderstruck (adjective)**

thunderstruck
we were ~ (by Arctic fox’s epic trek)

thunderstruck by what
he was ~ he heard

**feeling, emotion & effect:** electricity / lightning / sound / storm
thunderous
thunderous explosion
~s shook buildings (war)

ressemblance / sound: storm

ticket

ticket to obscurity
historically the vice presidency has been a ~
ticket to success
the Internet can be your ~ (online degrees)
ticket to transition
trainers are the ~ (military trainers to Afghans)
ticket out of poverty
it was her ~ (new career as technical writer)

see boxing as a ticket
many Indian girls ~ to a middle-class life (India)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ticket

tick-tock (noun)
tick-tock of events
is there any info about how this all happened, what the ~ was

♦ Heard—where else! —on National Public Radio.

sequence: clock / sound
time: sound
tick on (verb)
time ticks on
Brazil are starting to lose hope as the ~ (World Cup soccer)

starting, going, continuing & ending: clock / sound / verb
tidal wave (in a tidal wave)
in a tidal wave of development
their aboriginal rights were swept away ~
swept away in a tidal wave
their aboriginal rights were ~ of development

amount & effect: sea / wave
tidal wave (other)
tidal wave of calls
a ~ to 911 (due to prevalence of cellphones)
tidal wave of (Muslim) immigrants
the ~ arrive from India (Karachi)
tidal wave of (criminal) charges
the ~ and civil lawsuits (priest abuse)
tidal wave of data and information
computers are creating a ~

face a tidal wave
parents ~ of pressure (from kids for sexualized products)

amount & effect: sea / wave
tide (on a tide)
on a tide of discontent
he was swept into office ~
on a tide of (anti-Washington) sentiment
state lawmakers are capitalizing ~
on a tide of (military) success
he was elected ~
on a tide of goodwill and emotion
the team is riding ~ (Iraqi national soccer team)

amount & effect: sea / tide
tide (turn the tide, etc.)
tide is turning
the ~ in the war
the ~ against insurgents in the province
tide turning
is the ~ towards impeachment for President Trump
turned the tide
in 1943, the Allies ~ (war in Europe)
turned the tide in the fight
countries that have successfully ~ against HIV
turned the tide of battle
Capt. Rubio's singularly heroic act ~
turned the tide of the war
the Russians had ~ (Kursk, 1943)
successfully turned the tide
countries that have ~ in the fight against HIV

reversal: sea / tide / verb
development: sea / tide / verb
tide (buck the tide)
buck the tide
he was an iconoclast, willing to ~ (doctor)

resistance, opposition & defeat: sea / tide / verb
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sea / tide / verb
tide (rising tide)
rising tide of gentrification
the ~ (Miami Beach and sea-level rise)

amount & effect: sea / tide / water / wave
tide (stem the tide, etc.)
slow the tide
what needs to be done to ~ of immigration
resist the tide
few politicians have done more to ~ of progress
stem the tide of junk mail
we must ~
stem the tide of divorce
measures to ~

stem the tide of foreclosures
little can be done to ~

stem the tide of questions
he had struggled to ~ (minister forced to resign)

stem the tide of suicide
how can we ~ (doctors)

stem the tide of scandals
the NCAA wants to ~ (sports)

amelioration & renewal: sea / tide / verb
tide (other)
tide of filth
publication of the letters drenched him in a ~ (a writer)
tide of immigration
what needs to be done to slow the ~ (US)
tide of migrants
a swelling ~ is moving into South Africa (Zimbabweans)
tide of optimism
a new ~ was already sweeping across our land
tide of tourism
the ~ cannot be stemmed (the Arctic)
tide of (Arab and Islam) bashing
the rising ~ in America
rising tide
~ of Arab and Islam bashing in America
the ~ of Internet retail mania
on Wall Street, though, a ~ lifts many boats
prescription drugs are being linked to a ~ of problems
he claims free trade is a ~ that will lift all boats
swelling tide
a ~ of migrants is moving into South Africa
democratic tide
there is a rising ~ in the region (for reform)
tide is running against him
the political ~

cartiage by the tide
they have been ~ of domestic technology

swept away on a tide
agrarian England was ~ of industrialization

control & lack of control: animal
tight (money)
tight
things are rather ~ (lack of money to pay bills)
wages are stagnant, jobs scarce, and credit ~
money: sensation
amount: money
tighten (verb)
tightening its control
  China is ~ of vital minerals
tightened controls
  Germany ~ over livestock feed (dioxin scare)
tighten (immigration) laws
  many campaigned to ~ (elections)
tighten oversight
  we must ~ of the industry
tighten lending
  banks continue to ~
amelioration & renewal: tools & technology / verb
tight-knit
tight-knit community
  the ~
tight-knit network
  a ~ of family and clan protected him (Saddam)
division & connection: cloth
tightrope
tightrope community
  it’s one of the hardest ~ to walk now (abortion issue)
diplomatic tightrope
  the US is walking a ~
walk this tightrope
  they have to ~ of how much change they can change
fate, fortune & chance: circus
difficulty, easiness & effort: circus
time (buy time, etc.)
buying time
  so basically we were ~ (astronauts face death)
time: money / verb
time (steal time, etc.)
steal time
  1 had to ~ away from the daily grind (to go climbing)
time: money / verb
time (time has passed)
time may have (already) passed
  it’s a gimmick whose ~ (augmented reality phone app)
future / primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: movement
time: direction / movement / verb
time (borrowed time)
borrowed time
  he was living on ~
time: money
time (run out of time)
running out of time
  we’re ~ (press conference)
in the new academic world, she’s ~ (adjunct)
  my greatest fear is ~ (filmmaker)
time is running out
  ~ (negotiations)
time: consumption / verb
timeliness & lack of timeliness: consumption / verb
time (waste time)
lay waste to the myths
  it is time to ~ of Soviet propaganda (Katyn)
time: consumption / verb
timeliness & lack of timeliness: consumption / verb
time (use time)
use their time
  candidates must decide how best to ~
  he studies how people ~ (a sociologist)
use their time on the job
  the surprising ways Americans ~
use their time wisely
  prosecutor want to make sure they ~
time: consumption / verb
time (the time can arrive, etc.)
time
  if you have things to do, now is the ~ (hurricane)
the time has arrived
  ~ to take a stand
timeliness & lack of timeliness: coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning
time (it’s time, etc.)
it’s (about) time
  ~ we started tackling this
it’s time to pay
  ~ student athletes (universities)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: prep, adv, adj, particle
time (time will tell)
only time will tell
  that old journalist canard, ~ (what will happen in the future)
future: speech
fictive communication: speech
time (past time)

past time for Americans to set aside myths
   it’s ~ about the Civil War and its aftermath
past time to stop them
   coaches are killing kids and it’s ~ (heat stroke, etc.)
past time to confront the realities
   it’s ~ (Civil War)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
time bomb (person)

time bomb of rage
   he was a ticking ~ (member of a hate group)
character & personality: explosion
time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
time bomb
   the company's debt load is a ~ waiting to go off
time bomb inside your body
   you could have a ticking ~ (pancreatic cancer)
privacy time bomb
   it's a ticking ~ (compiling lists of Web searches)
ticking time bomb
   Hillary Clinton called Sudan a ~
   it’s a ~ (San Onofre nuclear-power plant waste)
environmental time bomb
   Central and Eastern Europe our littered with ~s
latent time bomb
   a computer command set off the ~ (Mars glitch)
psychological time bomb
   reflex-quick killing can be a ~ (the Army)
   ♦ "You never really want to have any situation described as a ticking time bomb."

initiation / situation: explosion
time capsule (noun)
time capsule
   it's a ~ (an historic building)
time capsule of the era
   the TV show is a ~
time-capsule of manners
   the book is a ~
time capsule to archaeologists
   the site offers a ~
time capsule to another era
   the stories offer a ~
time-capsule charm
   the building has ~
cinematic time capsule
   the film is a ~
Soviet time capsule
   the state is a ~ (Abkhazia)
get out of the time capsule
   wake up, ~
past & present: container
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: container
time machine
time machine
   you're in a ~ as you go up the bay (an ecologist)
time: mechanism
future: mechanism
past & present: mechanism
time warp
Soviet time warp
   Abkhazia is living in a ~ (frozen in time)
past & present: movement
tinderbox (resemblance)
tinderbox
   the whole forest is a ~ (wildfires)
turned (much of) the state into a tinderbox
   California’s severe drought and extreme weather have ~
resemblance: fire
tinderbox (violence, etc.)
tinderbox
   the city is a ~ (trouble in Jerusalem)
volatile tinderbox
   in that ~ of a time, Kennedy led with a steady hand
Initiation: fire

tin-eared (adjective)
tin-eared (political) lines
   he still spouts ~ (politics)
flaws & lack of flaws: ear / music / speech
tinker (verb)
tinkering with the rules
   they are ~
amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb
tip (tip one's hand)
tips his hand
   under pressure from his audience, the candidate sometimes ~
concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling / sports & games
tired (adjective)
tired of the finger-pointing
parents are ~ (school issues)

feeling, emotion & effect: sleep
titan (noun)
titan of the Surrealist movement
this ~ strode on stage (Salvador Dali on Dick Cavett show)
economic titan
Asia's ~s, China and Japan…
global titans
the Quakers had become ~ of the whaling industry

size: creature
importance & significance: creature / size
achievement, recognition & praise: creature / size
today (noun)
today
he is just as committed ~ as he was yesterday and the day before
past & present: day
toe (on one's toes)
on their toes
at this point, everybody is ~
readiness & preparedness: toe / standing, sitting & lying
toe (step on toes)
stepped on a lot of toes
he ~ with his stories (murdered journalist)
stepped on the toes of old theories and beliefs
his discoveries ~ (Pasteur)
♦ “It was ticklish business. Powerful economic toes in the shoes of pseudo-science had to be stamped on.” (Men Against Death by Paul De Kruif. From the chapter “Death in Milk” about Alice Evans and her work on undulant fever.)

feeling, emotion & effect: foot / sensation / toe / verb
disruption: foot / sensation / toe / verb
toe (dip one's toes)
dipping its toes into digital apps
Mattel is ~
dipping a toe into public life
they are ~ (two sons of celebrity start YouTube channel)
dipping his toe in the (church-as-business) waters
perhaps Kanye West is ~

involvement: foot / toe / verb / water
experimentation: foot / toe / verb / water
toehold (noun)
toehold within the city
Grebavica gave the Serbs a ~ (war in Bosnia)
toehold on a computer
automated tools get hackers a ~
political toehold
women have been unable to gain a ~ (Massachusetts)
presence & absence: foot / toe
survival, persistence & endurance: foot / toe
toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.)
go toe to toe
the two warriors ~ (Deadliest Warrior TV show)
go toe-to-toe with the US military
they certainly can’t ~, but...

conflict: boxing / toe / verb
toll (noun)
toll
not getting enough sleep day after day takes its ~
toll of the war
he wrote a report on the psychological ~ (on soldiers)
toll on the (entire) family
their condition can take a ~ (autistic kids)
toll on musicians' bodies
hours of practice take their ~
toll on lives and places
war’s ~ (Cambodia)
war’s toll
the ~ on lives and places (Cambodia)
actual (annual) toll
the ~ might be 10,000 (vs. reported) (mine deaths)
emotional toll
stuttering can exact a terrible ~
heavy toll
rebel resistance was taking a ~
the US raid, while brief, inflicted a ~
huge toll
my job took a ~ (presidential advisor)

human toll
the ~ was high

psychological toll
he wrote a report on the ~ of the war
the ordeal had taken a profound ~ (climbing accident)
cost & benefit: money
toll (take a toll, etc.)
exact a (terrible emotional) toll
stuttering can ~
taking its toll
the buildup to war, too, was ~
took its toll
the heat and humidity ~ (heat-related deaths)

took their toll
years of graffiti "missions" ~ (arrests, etc.)

cost & benefit: money / verb
tomorrow (future)
tomorrow
~ is already here
tomorrow
dominant industries today will give way to new industries ~
tomorrows
“I’d trade all my ~, for that one single yesterday.”
tomorrow’s revenue stream
e-commerce is ~
building a (better) tomorrow
we are ~
future: day
ton (amount)
ton of attention
Charlottesville did bring a ~ to these groups
ton of football
we’ve got a ~ for you (TV)
ton of detail
we’ve heard vague reports, but there’s not a ~

amount: weight
tone-deaf (adjective)
tone-deaf
his response to the accusation was ~
tone deaf and ignorant
she was accused of being ~ to racial sensitivities
flaws & lack of flaws: music / speech
tone down (verb)
toning down his rhetoric
he is ~
attenuation: speech / verb
tongue (danger)
tongue
your ~ is your horse, protect it and it will protect you
keep the ~ in your mouth a prisoner
punishment of his tongue
what a man suffers in life is the ~ (Turkey)
danger: speech / tongue
tongue (language)
foreign tongue
he was speaking in a ~
language: tongue
tongue (hold one's tongue)
hold your tongue
I would advise you to ~
unable to hold her tongue
she is ~
speech: tongue / verb
cost & lack of control: speech / tongue
tongue (bite one's tongue)
bitten my tongue
I have ~ despite feeling I should say something
speech: tongue / verb
tongue (lose one's tongue)
lost your tongue
have you ~
functioning: speech / tongue
speech: tongue / verb
tongue (slip of the tongue)
slips of the tongue
~ are entirely normal in kids
failure, accident & impairment: speech / tongue
tongue-lashing
tongue lashing
the older player gave her a ~ (teen golfer)
tongue- lashings from the coach
~ (basketball)
tongue-lashing from Kathy
I took a ~ (wife)
speech: tongue / violence / whip
accusation & criticism: tongue / violence / whip
tongue twister
tongue twister
do you know a ~
♦ She sells sea shells by the sea shore. The sixth sick sheik’s sheep’s sick.
difficulty, easiness & effort: speech / tongue
tongue-twisting
tongue-twisting name
the ~ eosinophilic esophagitis
difficulty, easiness & effort: speech / tongue
**tonic (effect)**

tonic
    military victory is anticipated as the ~ that will...

tonic for the country
    the team's revival has been a ~ that needs it (World Cup)

tonic for the sport
    her arrival proved a ~ (Danica Patrick)

**feeling, emotion & effect: health & medicine**

**amelioration & renewal: health & medicine**

**tool (help)**

tool to combat
    it remains the principal ~ street homelessness

tool to educate
    Senior Step is a ~ older amputees (magazine)

tool to save
    it's the best ~ lives in avalanches (air bags)

tool of repression
    the Iraqi military was a ~ (Kurds)

tool for (AIDS) prevention
    the classroom as a ~

tool for law enforcement
    the antiterrorism law is an essential ~

tools for (consumer) advertising
    magazines are ~

tool for analyzing
    Microstran, an advanced ~ structures (software)

tools for evaluating
    their arsenal of ~ applicants (colleges)

tool for measuring
    the CATCS, a new ~ student cynicism (college)

tools menu
    on the ~, click mail merge (computers)

assessment tool
    the CATCS, a new ~ for measuring student cynicism

communications tool
    e-mail is a ~, not an information tool (hoaxes)

hacker tools
    Web sites specializing in ~

information tool
    e-mail is a communications tool, not an ~ (hoaxes)

management tool
    wilderness bonding as a ~

research tool
    the M.R.I. and PET are crucial ~s (brain)

cancer-research tool
    the virus became a widely used ~

performance evaluation tool
    the job description may also be a ~

high tech tool
    ~s that could help in the war on terrorism

learning tool
    computers are kid's toys and ~s

marketing tool
    a subtle ~ to get out the message
    wine has become a ~ as well (restaurants)

recruiting tool
    the parachutists are deployed as a ~

screening tool
    there is a need for better ~s for depression

teaching tool
    adopted as a standard ~; as a ~ he had a chart made

depression screening tool
    a nine question ~ (public health)

fire-fighting tools
    a growing arsenal of ~ (wildfires)

advanced tool
    Microstran, an ~ for analyzing structures (software)

widely used (cancer-research) tool
    the virus became a ~

additional tools
    ~ to augment deadly force (nonlethal means)

basic tool
    education is the most ~ for helping you with diabetes

biometric tools
    ~ (fingerprinting, facial recognition, iris scans)

diagnostic tool
    the CAT scan, a ~ used in hospitals worldwide

essential tool
    the antiterrorism law is an ~ for law enforcement

indispensable tool
    the typewriter was once an ~ in the writer's life

political tool
    forswore the use of violence as a ~

powerful tool
    password systems give merchants ~s
    the technology can be a ~ to help doctors (MRI)

principal tool
    it remains the ~ to combat street homelessness

psychiatric tool
    brain imaging has been oversold as a ~ (psychiatry)

standard (teaching) tool
    adopted as a ~

subtle (marketing) tool
arsenal of tools
their ~ for evaluating applicants (colleges)
arsenal of (fire-fighting) tools
a growing ~
creator of a (Web publishing) tool
Dave Winer, ~ called… (computers)
repository of (Sybase) tools
a non-commercial ~
access to ("cracking") tools
al Qaeda has ~ (cyberwarfare)
bonding as a (management) tool
wilderness ~
violence as a (political) tool
forswore the use of ~
develop tools
~ for addressing stereotypes when you hear them
oversold as a (psychiatric) tool
brain imaging has been ~
♦ "That's not to say it can do everything, but it is a tool with profound benefits, a great tool." (Dr. James A. Brink, on the importance of CAT scanners.)
help & assistance: tools & technology
toolbox
tools in our toolbox
I'd like to see more ~ (interrogations of terrorists)
management toolbox
there are a whole host of tools that are in that ~ (wildfires)
group, set & collection: tools & technology
toolkit
teacher's toolkit
the techniques and strategies in a ~
group, set & collection: tools & technology
tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
tooth for a tooth
an eye for an eye, a ~
revenge: Bible / religion / teeth
tooth and nail (adverb)
tooth and nail
she fought him, ~
they fought ~ to keep the evidence out (trial)
fighting (the effort) tooth and nail
the industry is ~ (regulation)
fight tooth and nail for her power
she has to ~ (the opera character Carmen)
resistance, opposition & defeat: animal
predation: animal
toothless (adjective)
toothless resolution
this is yet another ~ from the Security Council (UN)
scorned as toothless
the regulatory agency is widely ~
force: animal / teeth
strength & weakness: animal / teeth
attenuation: animal / teeth
toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
put (all) that toothpaste back in the tube
it's very hard to ~ (morality)
initiation: teeth
top (blow one's top)
blew his top
he ~ in front of a group of colleagues
feeling, emotion & effect: explosion / verb / volcano
top (on top)
on top
the people are ~ nowadays (Doctor Zhivago)
society is like a layer cake, with the upper class ~
hierarchy: position
top (on / at / to the top)
at the top of his game
he is ~
came out on top
it was a crappy situation, but we ~ (Rangers)
finished on top
San Jose ~ last season (soccer)
go out on top
like any other boxer, he wants to ~
motivated to be on top
he was ~ (Jeremy Lusk)
take him to the top
he hoped his right hand would ~ (a boxer)
achievement, recognition & praise: direction
growth & development: direction
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction
top (on top / control)
on top of this
we are ~ (an emergency)
get on top of this
we need to ~ (epidemic)
stay on top of a project
he will ~ until it is done

control & lack of control: direction

**top dog (hierarchy)**

top dog
there was no doubt he was the ~ (young Federal lawyer)
hierarchy: animal / dog / position

topography (noun)
favorable political topography
this is a ~ for us (the Republican senate)

area: ground, terrain & land

topple (verb)
topple the government
he was charged with attempting to ~ by force and conspiracy
topped the government
his self-immolation started the riots that ~ (Tunisia)
topped (entrenched) leaders
the protests have ~ in Egypt and Tunisia
topple the regime
they wish to ~ (rebels)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: direction /
equilibrium & stability / ruins / verb
dismissal, removal & resignation: direction / equilibrium &
stability / ruins / verb
destruction: direction / equilibrium & stability / ruins / verb
torch (carry a torch)
carry the torch for the political allies
judges should not ~

representation: fire / verb
torch (other)
torch
the ~ has been passed (from the Kennedys to O’Rourke)
torch of (Syrian contemporary art)
for a long time the ~ was carried by Mustafa Ali

representation: fire
transmission: fire
torchbearer

last torchbearer
her generation is perhaps its ~s (Anglo-Indians in India)

representation: fire
torn

torn between past and present
Turkey, ~
torn between modernity and traditionalism

Turkey, ~
torn between the statements and the lack of evidence
both juries were ~
torn between two career directions
are you ~
torn between admiration and annoyance
he was ~
torn over whether
I'm ~ I should…

conflict-torn
~ areas such as Kosovo and the Palestinian territories

violence-torn
~ East Timor

war-torn (m)
drilling for oil in this ~ area (Colombia)
this poor, hungry, ~ backwater
division & connection: destruction
torn up
torn up about it
I was kind of ~

feeling, emotion & effect: destruction
torpedo (verb)
torpedoing morale
the overhaul of the system is ~ (education)
torpedoes her plea
that ~ for self-defense
torpedoed their season
the loss ~ (football)

An international investigation came to the conclusion that North Korea
torpedoed the South Korean warship Cheonan, killing 46 sailors. During
the Falklands War, the submarine HMS Conqueror torpedoed and sank
the ARA General Belgrano.

destruction: boat / sea / verb
torpedo (noun)
torpedo
it was the ~ than sank the prosecution's case (forensics)

destruction: boat / sea
torpor (noun)
torpor and schlock
he came back from years of ~ (Elvis Presley)

activity: health & medicine
torrent (noun)
torrent of abuse
his remarks unleashed a ~
torrent of data
genomics has released a ~
torrent of criticism
the decision provoked a ~
torrent of (irate and obscene) e-mails
he awoke to a ~
torrent of fury
in the play's scorching final scene, she unleashes a ~ at…
torrent of information
filtering, organizing, and customizing this ~ (Web)
amount & effect: water
movement: water
torture (afflict)
tortured me for months
my daughter ~ (potty training)
tortured him
the rumors ~
cancer ~
the weeks ~, as he knew people were dying
affliction: violence / verb
torture (affliction)
mental torture
it was a form of ~ (combat soldiers talking about great meals)
puts his body through the torture
he ~ required to prepare... (a boxer)
affliction: violence
tortured
tortured about his sexuality
a man ~ (closeted gay Republican politician)
tortured by bad weather
this is an areas that has been ~ (spring tornadoes)
tortured emotions
such ~ (towards sex / Arabs)
tortured path
it's been a long ~ for the project (space)
tortured childhood
he cries when he recalls his ~ (homosexual)
tortured, difficult and painful
relations are often ~ (politics)
legal torture
the way we feel is that we are going through ~ (family)
affliction: violence
torturous
slow, torturous (m)
a ~ death by drowning, hypothermia suffocation (sub)
feeling, emotion & effect: violence
toss back (verb)
tossed political gerrymandering back to the states
the Supreme Court has ~
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: arm / verb
toss out (verb)
tossed out of court
his suit was ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: arm / verb
totem pole
totem pole
Flint was apparently low on the ~ (in a company)
hierarchy: Native Americans
touch (verb)
touched everyone
the loss ~ (children die in house fire)
touched many lives
throughout his life, he ~
feeling, emotion & effect: finger / verb
touch (lose touch)
lost touch with her
officials said they had ~
loses touch with reality
he ~ (a schizophrenic)
lost touch with firefighters
fire officials ~ trying to... (poor communications)
lost touch with their father
they ~ and Native heritage (Laguna Pueblo)
division & connection: finger / verb
touch (connection)
touch with reality
he loses ~ (a schizophrenic)
human touch
the ~ comes naturally (a lawyer)
loses touch
he ~ with reality (a schizophrenic)
division & connection: finger
touching (adjective)
touching story
this was the most ~ I've ever heard
feeling, emotion & effect: finger
touchstone

touchstone of a generation
   it was the ~ (Woodstock Music Festival / US)

touchstones of (medical) progress
   vaccines and antibiotics are seen as ~ (vs. diagnostic test)

touchstone in (American) culture
   her case became a ~ (Terri Schiavo)

touchstone in German Holocaust studies
   the book became a ~ (by H. G. Adler)

touchstone for a set
   the painting is a ~ of ideals ("Kindred Spirits")

"touchstone" (1960) book
   Harper Lee's ~ ("To Kill a Mockingbird")

holiday touchstone
   "It's a Wonderful Life" is now a ~ (film)

cultural touchstone
   "American Psycho" has become a ~ (US / a book)

emotional touchstone
   Jerusalem is an ~ for many people in the Middle East

♦ A touchstone was a dark stone such as slate used to determine, or
   assay, the purity of a precious metal, like gold. It is similar in meaning
   nowadays to litmus test. The word seems to relate to authenticity,
   genuineness, or shared experience.

representation: mark

touchy (adjective)

touchy subject
   abortion is a ~ for some radio programmers

feeling, emotion & effect: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

tough-minded

tough-minded
   he is ~ and not afraid to take risks (commander)

nimble, tough-minded and effective
   we need government that is ~

mind: materials & substances

tout (person)

tout for the educational-technology industry
   he is a ~

message: person

attention, scrutiny & promotion: person

tout (verb)

tout the wonders
   Mexican officials ~ of Mexico (tourism)

message: verb

attention, scrutiny & promotion: verb

towel (throw in the towel)

threw in the towel on adding
   he ~ a citizenship question (on the census)

ready to throw in the towel
   she's not ~

resistance, opposition & defeat: boxing / verb

towering (towering figure, etc.)

towering figure
   Jacky Robinson was a ~ in American sports
   he was a ~ who rose above party politics (McCain)

importance & significance: size / height / infrastructure

toxic (adjective)

toxic
   the modern culture of the prom has become ~ (critics)

toxic atmosphere
   political leaders have contributed to a ~ (politics)

toxic doctrine
   the ~ of racial superiority (Nazis)

toxic environment
   it has been a ~ for 8 years (actor on a TV show)

toxic (political) environment
   incumbent politicians are at risk in the ~

toxic (work) environment
   employees complained that he created a ~ (a boss)

toxic person
   she is a ~

toxic relationship
   their ~ ended in murder

toxic political warfare
   this will pour fuel on the fire of ~

feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances

track (on track)

on track to jump
   the number of Wi-Fi cards sold is ~ 75 percent

on track to meet
   the services are ~ reserve manpower goals (military)

on track for a shot
   a win would keep him ~ at the title (boxer)

on an academic track
   he is ~ (vs. vocational program) (high school)

on the right track
   we are ~ (making progress towards our goal)

back on track
   we are ~ (making progress)
   they will get ~ today with a new bill (politics)
still on track
US policy there is ~ (Central Asia)
organized and on track
keep your job search ~
stay on track
your script should help you ~ (job interviews)
keep your job search (organized and) on track
get back on track
treatment options to help you ~ (depression)
it is possible to ~ (debt in economy)
get us (back) on track
I've got a solution that will ~
get our economy (back) on track
to help ~
progress & lack of progress: train
direction: train
track (fast track)
on a fast track to a vote
the resolution is ~ on the floor of the senate
speed: train
track (across the tracks, etc.)
lives across the tracks
the horror genre ~ in the literary community
division & connection: train
track (cover one's tracks)
cover your tracks
you didn't ~ very well, you were easy to find
cover his tracks
people wondered if he disappeared to ~ (crime suspect)
cover his digital tracks
he failed to ~ (an Internet hacker)
subterfuge: foot / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb
track (stop something in its tracks)
stopped the (FBI) investigation in its tracks
the plea agreement ~
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips /
movement / verb / walking, running & jumping
track (stopped in one's tracks)
got stopped in its tracks
the idea ~ (opening a liaison office)
starting, going, continuing & ending: walking, running & jumping
track (off the beaten track)
off the beaten track
the whirlpools are ~
go off the beaten track
he doesn't hesitate to ~
Isolation & remoteness: journeys & trips
direction: train
career track
I didn't take the traditional ~
traditional (career) track
I didn't take the ~
take the (traditional career) track
I didn't ~
direction: train
track down (verb)
track down John Sergeant
I decided I would ~ and ask him what…
track down a (caller's) location
in order to ~... (police)
track down his (work) phone
it took some effort to ~
tracked down the relatives
Moroccan officials ~ of the man (terrorist)
tracked down the (first) vehicle
authorities ~, a Subaru Outback…
track down victims
early efforts to ~ turned up… (identity theft)
track down water
how hard it can be to ~ in the Mojave
track down (dog-friendly) cafes and hotels
~ (a Web site)
track down (high-school) girlfriends
they ~... (NFL background checks)
track down the financing
our efforts to ~ of al Qaeda
tracked down this sickness
Evans ~ lurking in the milk supply (undulant fever)
tracked him down at a (corner) dice game
she ~
effort to track down
it took some ~ his work phone
searching & discovery: hunting / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb
tracked (followed)

tracked all over campus
  students are ~ (security systems)
tracked at factories, office parks, stadiums
  people are ~ (security systems)
tracked through the system
  parts must be ~ (military logistics)
information should be tracked
  this ~ in the TOC and the CTCP (military)
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

tracking

tracking of immigrants
  the need for the government to improve its ~
tracking information
  for ~, visit us at... (post office)
tracking number
  ~ 844553785371 (Federal Express)
eye-tracking (m)
  usability experts may use ~ software
missile-tracking (m)
  Russia has constructed a large, ~ radar
radio tracking (m)
  animals fitted with ~ collars
countertracking (m)
  backtracking, doglegging or other ~ methods (military)
acquisition and tracking (m)
  frequencies of enemy ~ systems
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

track record

track record of accomplishments
  years of experience and a ~ (resume)
track record of these methods
  given the ~
track record of getting the big issues wrong
  he has a ~, time after time (Federal Reserve candidate)
track record in improving
  he has a ~ schools (election)
track record for success
  he's got a ~
skills, achievements and track record
  your ~ (job hunting)
♦ This usage refers to a runner's time.

traction (gain / build / get traction)

build traction
  her campaign is starting to ~ (politics)
gain traction
  rumors ~ in an atmosphere of uncertainty
gained (significant) traction with customers
  none of their products ~ (a company)
gaining traction
  an effort to establish industrywide safety standards is ~
going traction
  the economic recovery was finally ~
struggled to gain traction
  her campaign has ~ (elections)

starting, going, continuing & ending: movement / verb
progress & lack of progress: movement / verb
force: movement / verb

trade (verb)

traded some ideas
  we ~ on how we could work collectively (diplomacy)
possession: money / verb

tragedy (noun)

ended in tragedy
  the hostage drama ~ when...
feeling, emotion & effect: theater

traffic light (noun)

“traffic light” regime
  operators should observe a ~ (fracking / England)
sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sign, signal, symbol

trail (blaze a trail)

blazed the trail for many young film makers
  he ~ (Samuel L. Jackson on death of John Singleton)
blazed a trail between Greeks and Turks
  they have ~ with their music
blazed a trail into the workplace
  women like her ~
blazed his own trail
  he ~

importance & significance: journeys & trips / verb

trail (follow)

trailed him
  the accusations have ~ for years (of sexual misconduct)
the allegations that ~ finally caught up to him
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb
trail (throw somebody off the trail)
throw the police off their trail
their effort to ~ failed (runaway mom)

subterfuge: hunting / verb
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting / verb
trail (digital trail, etc.)

trail of deceit
this industry has left a ~ (tobacco)
trail of devastation
deadly tornadoes leave a ~ in Florida (newspaper)
data trail
they followed the ~ to his computer (criminal)
digital trail
investigators are going through a ~ of text messages
money trail
they are following the ~
paper trail
officials follow extensive ~s
evidence: hunting
pursuit, capture & escape: hunting

trail (campaign trail, etc.)
campaign trail
the 2000 presidential ~
comeback trail
they are on the ~ after serious injuries (skiers)
the genre is on the ~ (hard rock music)
route: journeys & trips

trail (trail of tears)
trail of tears
the training can be a ~ (PJs / military)
♦ The Trail of Tears refers to the removal of the Cherokee Indians from the Southeast to Oklahoma.

feeling, emotion & effect: Native Americans
survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips
trailblazer (person)

trailblazer
she was a ~
trailblazer for (African-American) directors
Singleton was considered a ~ in the 1990s

importance & significance: journeys & trips / person
person: journeys & trips
trailblazing

trailblazing research
~ in capital punishment

importance & significance: journeys & trips

train (failure)
wheels are coming off the train
the ~ in the mortgage business

failure, accident & impairment: train

train (operation)
legal train
the ~ chugs forward, unperturbed…

operation: train

train (train has left the station, etc.)

train
that ~ has already left the station
he realized the ~ was leaving without him (merger plans)
♦ “Your dad loved her very much. If there was one other cat in this world that could have loved her and treated her as well as your dad, then it was me. But, unfortunately, for yours truly, that train has sailed.” (Austin Powers to Vanessa Kensington from the film Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery.)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: train / verb

train (future)
train has been coming down the tracks
this ~ for the past 10 years (change in government)

future: direction / train

train (runaway train)
runaway train of drug addiction
data show the ~ has slowed down

control & lack of control: train

train (hype train, etc.)
hype train
the ~ was derailed (for Y.A. book, by sensitivity readers)
driving force: train

train (in one's train)
in their train
the Chinese arrived with disease ~ (eastern Siberia)

sequence: train

train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
get on the Trump train
Republicans must ~ or else
got on the Trump train
when he ultimately ~, he stuck to it (politics)
boarded the Trump Train
many of the events took place before he ~ (politics)

allegiance, support & betrayal: train
unanimity & consensus: train
**trajectory (noun)**

trajectory
he started out on another ~ entirely (career)

stalled trajectory
she got depressed at the ~ of her once-promising career

epidemic’s trajectory
a trial could have slowed the opioid ~

life’s (natural) trajectory
sport compresses ~ of ascent, apogee and decline

set the trajectory
getting into the right college will ~ for the rest of your child’s life

shifted the trajectory
new information has ~ their probe (police)

**development: journeys & trips / flying & falling / physics**

**trample (verb)**

trample on his rights
that doesn’t allow you to ~

**destruction: animal / foot / verb**

**oppression: animal / foot / verb**

trampled

trampled underfoot
the rights of victims were effectively ~ (clergy sex abuse)

**destruction: animal / foot**

**translate (verb)**

translate words into reality
the failure to ~… (diplomacy)

translate the language of science into terms
he can ~ people understand

translate into votes
endorsements don’t always ~ (politics)

translate into (operational) safety
design safety does not necessarily ~ (factories)

**creation & transformation: speech / verb**

**transparency**

transparency in (government) procurement
~ (part of WTO agenda)

Transparency measures
Article 7 ~ (UN convention against landmines)

transparency and accountability
the need for financial ~ (PLO)

financial transparency
the need for ~ and accountability (PLO)

lacks transparency

the process ~

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark**

**transparent**

free and transparent (m)
ensuring ~ elections (Kosovo)

**concealment & lack of concealment: light & dark**

**transplant (noun)**

Atlanta’s transplants
creating a hometown atmosphere for ~ (sports bars)

**growth & development: plant**

**dismissal, removal & resignation: plant**

**trap (noun)**

trap
his proposal is not a solution but a ~ (diplomacy)

speed trap
the State Police set up ~s to catch speeders

trap is set
the ~ (a stratagem to catch a criminal)

fallen into a trap
the Bush administration has ~ (by invading Iraq)

fallen for the trap
many online personals users have ~ (scam)

> Falling into a pattern is falling into a trap.* (Ex-FBI profiler, speaking of the Washington, D.C.-area sniper.)

**subterfuge: hunting**

pursuit, capture & escape: hunting
danger: hunting

**trap (Chinese finger trap)**

Chinese finger trap
engaging with Trump is like a ~ (Joe Biden)

> Trying hard to remove your fingers only makes the trap tighter. Sometimes, if you are in a jam, it is better to relax.

**situation: container / pressure**

**trapdoor (computers)**

trap door
‘~s’ allow outsiders access to the system (computers)

**computer: doors & thresholds**

**concealment & lack of concealment: doors & thresholds**

**subterfuge: doors & thresholds**

**trapped**

trapped in a (sadomasochist) love affair
he was ~ with a former RAF pilot

trapped in the battle
~ between his warring parents

trapped as a (permanent) adjunct
you could end up ~ forever (colleges)
trapped by dogma  
  don’t be ~ (Steve Jobs / Apple Computer)

feels trapped  
  she ~ (in a small town)

got trapped  
  they ~ in a cycle of drug-taking (prostitutes)

end up trapped  
  you could ~ as a permanent adjunct forever (colleges)

involvement: hunting  
  pursuit, capture & escape: hunting  
  situation: ground, terrain & land  

trash (noun)  
  trailer trash  
  she went from ~ to rich as sin and back  
  white trash  
  Mama persuaded us we were special, not just ~  

worth & lack of worth: waste  

trawl (verb)  
  trawled through (400,000) documents  
  the panel ~ (investigation)  
  trawled (daily) through (student) websites  
  police ~ run by Muslim student groups at Yale  
  trawl through his communication records and social media history  
  FBI investigators were able to ~  

searching & discovery: boat / fish / verb  
  pursuit, capture & escape: boat / fish / verb  

tread (tread carefully, etc.)  
  treading a (delicate) line  
  the government is ~ between…  

tread heavily  
  you ~, but you speak the truth  

tread lightly  
  we have to ~ here (a murder investigation)  

tread carefully  
  they need to ~  

danger: walking, running & jumping / verb  

treadmill (noun)  
  treadmill  
  the ~ isn’t likely to stop anytime soon (language change)  
  treadmill of daily radio  
  get off the ~ and see what’s next  
  minimum-wage treadmill  
  she discusses how people can get off the ~  
  step off the (industry’s promotional) treadmill  

by 2010 he was ready to ~ (a country singer)  

starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism  
  work & duty: mechanism  

treasure (money)  

treasure and blood  
  how much more can we give in ~ (foreign wars)  

money: sign, signal, symbol  

treasure (worth)  

national treasure  
  National Public Radio is a ~  

worth & lack of worth: money  

treasured (worth)  

treasured novel  
  it is arguably America’s ~ (To Kill a Mockingbird)  

worth & lack of worth: money  

treasure house  

treasure house of the writings  
  the library is a ~ at the core of the Western tradition  

amount: money  
  group, set & collection: money  
  worth & lack of worth: money  

treasure trove (and trove)  

treasure trove of information  
  a ~ from a data recorder (space shuttle)  

trove of information  
  intelligence agencies are acting on a ~  
  soldiers discovered the tape among a ~  

treasure-trove of (fossilized) jellyfish  
  a ~ discovered in Wisconsin  

trove of material  
  the new ~ was being sifted for fresh clues (terrorism)  

treasure trove of (grand, poetic) rhetoric  
  the black church has always been a ~  

trove of (bowling) treasure  
  the Webers' home is a ~  

treasure trove of trivia  
  he has compiled a ~ about every president  

treasure trove of plant life  
  the Appalachians are a ~  

treasure trove of (pilfered) military items  
  a ~  

treasure trove for a historian  
  these materials were a ~  

stunning trove  
  scientists have discovered a ~ of fossils (Qingjiang biota)
geological treasure trove
obtaining rocks from the mantle layer would provide a ~
acting on a trove of information
intelligence agencies are ~ found during…
searching & discovery: money
amount: money
group, set & collection: money
worth & lack of worth: money
treat (in for a treat)
in for a treat
you are ~
experience: food & drink
tree (resemblance)
boot tree
~s can prevent wrinkles and cracking (leather boots)
resemblance: tree
tremor (noun)
created tremors
the article ~ throughout Silicon Valley
initiation: earthquake / volcano
evidence: earthquake / volcano
amount & effect: earthquake / volcano
effect: earthquake / volcano
trench (in the trenches)
in the trenches
he spent 34 years ~ (a teacher)
the game is won ~ (football)
in the dating trenches
friends of mine ~ have similar tales of woe (ghosted)

driving force / experience: military

triage (verb)
triage between (bad and worse) options
they have been forced to ~ (flooding)

judgment: health & medicine / verb

triage (noun)
triage in flight delays
there is no ~ (US airports)

triage mode
aging forces democracies into ~

fiscal triage
they have resorted to ~ (government)

political triage
Democrats plan ~ to retain the House (election funding)

strategy of triage
Democrats have begun a ~ (elections)

doing triage
Theranos was ~ (troubled corporation)

judgment: health & medicine

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: health & medicine

trial (show trial)
“show trial”
the investigation is a ~ (politics)

show trial
we don’t see the need for a ~ (political gaffe)

appearance & reality / performance: theater

judgment / oppression: justice

trial balloon

trial balloon
his office floated a flurry of ~s (baseball)

experimentation: atmosphere / balloon
attention, scrutiny & promotion: atmosphere / balloon

triangle (area)
"triangle of death"
the so-called ~ south of Baghdad

Suni triangle
the so-called ~ (Iraq)

coral triangle
the ~ exhibits astonishing marine biodiversity

three-and-a-half-acre triangle
a ~

area: shape

triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)

Ilemi Triangle
the ~ is contested by Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya

Afar Triangle
the ~ is also known as the Danakil Depression

Yigra triangle
the dispute centers on the ~ (Eritrea and Ethiopia)
the 250-square-mile piece of rocky land known as the ~

proper name: geometry

triangle (things)

fire triangle
the ~ is fuel, oxygen and heat (wildfires)

India-Japan-Australia triangle
China sits at the center of the ~ (trade)

relationship: geometry / sign, signal, symbol

triangle (people)

love triangle
she attacked her romantic rival in the ~
the play portrays a ~
apex of a romantic triangle
she was the ~

relationship: geometry / sign, signal, symbol

tribe (group)

girl's "tribe"
he must play up to the ~ (her friends / teen dating)
"gathering of the tribe"
many refer to it as a ~ (Masters / surfing)

group, set & collection: person

tributary (noun)

numerous tributaries
the main river of human lineage was split into ~ (Denisovans, etc.)

branching system: river

tribute (pay tribute)

payed tribute to its fallen detective
the NYPD ~ (killed in line of duty)

achievement, recognition & praise / obligation: money

trickle (noun)

trickle of information
the ~ handed out so far (by police)

trickle of (surrendering) soldiers
a ~ became a flood

trickle, flow, gush (m)
we had a theory called, "~" (to rescue hostages)

slowed to a trickle
the outpouring of generosity has ~ (aid)
the export of Libyan oil has ~
the flow has ~ (migrants)

cut to a trickle
the stream of jihadists into the country has been ~

movement: water

amount & effect: water

trickle (trickle in / out)

trickling in
foreign tourists are ~ (Wakhan)

trickles in at inflated prices
items ~ (Kisangani)

trickle out
yesterday, the news started to ~ (politics)

movement: water / verb

trigger (verb)

triggered my decision
what ~ was...

triggered a firestorm
he ~ of controversy (a politician's remarks)

triggered outrage
the online book ~

trigger a panic
the government does not want to ~ (epidemic)

trigger a (regional) war
he is willing to ~ (Assad)

trigger fear and chaos
their aim is to ~ (political assassins)

Initiation: weapon / verb

trigger (noun)

triggers of asthma
~ include allergens, infections, exercise, anxiety, reflux

trigger for abuse
low income or stress may be a ~ (spousal abuse)

trigger for the accident
the failure of the heat shielding may have been a ~

trigger for conflict
water can be a ~ (world's rivers)

allergy trigger
asthma and the effect of pets or other ~s

heartburn trigger
there are many ~s (food, cigarettes, drugs, etc.)

pets or other (allergy) triggers
asthma and the effect of ~

Initiation: weapon

trigger (pull the trigger)

pull the trigger
nobody wanted to ~ and do a deal (publishing houses)

Initiation: verb / weapon

action, inaction & delay: verb / weapon

trim (verb)

trim money from the (defense) budget
he proposed to ~

trim (state) spending
he has been able to ~ (politician)

dismissal, removal & resignation: ax / blade / knife / verb

trip up (verb)

trip up the president
this could ~

equilibrium & stability: verb / walking, running & jumping

failure, accident & impairment: verb / walking, running & jumping
tripwire (initiation)

tripwire event
  the Sopranos was the ~ that set off the golden age of TV

initiation: explosion / military / weapon

tripwire (danger)

legal tripwires
  she avoided ~ (Supreme Court confirmation hearing)

danger: explosion / military / weapon

triumvirate (noun)

triumvirate of the great mountains
  the ~ would be Everest, K2 and Nanga Parbat (Joe Simpson)

♦ The First Triumvirate in 60 B.C. consisted of Julius Caesar, Pompey, and Crassus.

importance & significance: allusion / history

Trojan horse (computers)

viruses, worms and Trojan Horses
  ~ (computers)

computer: Iliad & Odyssey

Trojan Horse (subterfuge)

Trojan Horses of the 21st century
cargo containers are the ~ (terrorism)

Trojan Horse in our midst
  the INS may be a ~ (editorial in state paper)

Trojan Horse for the Chinese Communist Party
  Huawei has been accused of being a ~

subterfuge: allusion / Iliad & Odyssey

troll (verb)

trolling for votes
  he is a cynical politician ~

pursuit, capture & escape: fish / verb

troll (computers)

troll
  ~s ask stupid questions and see who rises to the bait
  ~s provoke strangers online
  ~s love a vicious group hunt
  ~s push peoples' buttons
  ~s have caused people to commit suicide
  ~s posted flashing images to a Web site for epileptics

Web Troll
  Prolific ~ Arrested (headline)

♦ In the old days, trolls lurked under bridges or in dark forests and caught and ate unsuspecting people. Nowadays, trolls are provocateurs who lurk online. They identify a person they consider to be a "blownhard" or "full of it" and provoke and attack him. While the person who is attacked goes nuts, the trolls sit back and laugh.

computer: creature

troll (Troll Wall, etc.)

Troll Wall
  the ~ is the tallest rock face in Europe (Norway)

proper name: creature

trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.)

trophy boyfriend
  Asian boyfriends are the next ~s

trophy girlfriend
  she's found herself a young, hot ~

superlative: sign, signal, symbol

achievement, recognition & praise: sign, signal, symbol

trouble (in trouble)

in trouble
  the magazine is ~ (libel)

situation: container

troubled

troubled company
  the ~ is in bankruptcy

condition & status: mental health

troubled

troubled company
  the ~ is in bankruptcy

trouble (in trouble)

in a trough
  we're ~ (technology seems to have slowed down)

peaks and troughs
  the regional patterns of ~ could change (rising sea levels)

progress & lack of progress: shape

trounced

trounced 4-0 at Everton on Sunday
  they were ~ (Manchester United)

hitting, slamming & lashing: violence

trove (see treasure trove)

trope (noun)

trope
  call a truce
    let's ~ (interpersonal problem)

reached a (shaky) truce
  they have ~ in their trade dispute

conflict: military

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: military

starting, going, continuing & ending: military

truck (control)

my truck
  this is ~, and in my truck we go by my rules

♦ This is like the person who said, "You're either on the bus or not on the bus, and I'm driving the bus."
allegiance, support & betrayal: mechanism
unanimity & consensus: mechanism
control & lack of control: mechanism

**trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet)**

blow her own trumpet
she was unashamed to ~ (the great Nancy Hargreaves)

appeal: military / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / verb

**trumpet (verb)**

trumpeting its own product
the company is ~
trumpeting their victory
conservative groups were ~ (court)

appeal: military / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: sound / verb

**trunk (branching system)**

trunk road
we drove along France's old ~ (N7)

Grand Trunk Road
I drove along the ~ to the Khyber Pass
♦ Route Nationale 7 has been called France’s Route 66. It links Paris to the Cote d’Azur. Like Route 66, it has been superseded by expressways, but still preserves its charm and history.

branching system: tree

**tsunami (noun)**

tsunami of traffic
the Web site experienced a ~ (celebrity gossip)

tsunami warning
Democrats face a ~ (elections)

digital tsunami
it will be a challenge to keep up with the ~ (power)

electoral tsunami
we will see an ~ on Nov. 2 (elections)

refugee tsunami
the world has not seen a ~ like this since World War II

steroid tsunami
the ~ nearly washed out Major League Baseball

green tsunami
voters turned out for her in a "~" (Brazil)

slow-motion tsunami
all we can do is watch this ~ (elections)

survive the (economic) tsunami
companies are struggling to ~ (downturn)

amount & effect: sea / tsunami / wave
tube (go down the tubes)
goes down the tubes

this is what happens when a corporation ~

failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / verb
destruction: infrastructure / verb
tucked
tucked between Australia and Fiji
Vanuatu, ~

configuration: cloth
tug of war
tug-of-war
it’s a ~ which ideology will control the party
tug-of-war over the house
a post-divorce ~
tug-of-war between the airlines and FAA
part of a familiar ~
tug of war between Congress and the administration
the ~ over (border wall) funding took a new turn today

post-divorce tug-of-war
a ~ over the house

constitutional tug-of-war
the ~ between Moscow and the regions

legal tug-of-war
he has been the subject of a long ~ between…
♦ “Ah, but, but this case highlights kind of a sort of a tug of war between state and federal legal authorities, especially over issues of immigration and deportation.” (Reporter Gabrielle Emanuel speaking on NPR.)

conflict: sports & games
tumble (decline)

Dow tumbled
the ~ more than 500 points (2008 financial crisis)

prices have tumbled
gas ~

decline: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping
failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping
tumble (take a tumble)
took a tumble
the financial markets ~ today

decline: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping
failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping
tumble down (verb)
came tumbling down
but it all ~ when… (a happy life)

decline: direction / verb / walking, running & jumping
failure, accident & impairment: infrastructure / ruins / verb
destruction: infrastructure / ruins / verb

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 651 of 982
tumor (noun)
cancerous tumor
he described the country as a ~ (leader)

affliction: health & medicine
growth & development: health & medicine

tumult (disruption)
political tumult
the ~ of the 1960s
disruption: sound

tune (in tune, etc.)
in tune with his teammates
on Thursday he was ~ (soccer game)
in tune with the views
he is not ~ of his constituents (a politician)
in tune with (Bush's) view
he is more ~ of North Korea (a leader)
dance to the tune
many politicians ~ of the latest opinion poll or tweet

unanimity & consensus: music
tune (out of tune)
out of tune with the needs
education is ~ of the economy

unanimity & consensus: music
tune (change one's tune)
changed his tune
in May he ~ and confessed to doping (Tour de France)
changed their tune
it doesn't mean the bad guys have ~ (Baghdad)
reversal: music / verb
tune (change in tune)
change in tune
this is a ~ (US will leave 200 troops in Syria after all)
reversal: music / verb
tuned (stay tuned)
stay tuned
he urges people to ~ (to an ongoing issue)
stay tune to find out
~ (a politically motivated lawsuit)
consciousness & awareness: radio / verb
attention, scrutiny & promotion: radio / verb
development: radio / verb
tune-up (noun)
tune-up for the playoffs

the game was a good ~ (sports)

readiness & preparedness: engine / mechanism / music
amelioration & renewal: engine / mechanism / music
tunnel (resemblance)
tunnel of (mature) rhododendron
a long arched ~
resemblance: infrastructure
tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
light at the end of the tunnel
sometimes it doesn't seem like there's a ~ (troubles)
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: infrastructure
tunnel vision
tunnel vision
a kind of ~ dominates his perspective
tension tends to induce instant ~
I had ~ (an athlete who drove, shot, scored, won game)
tunnel vision thing
it was just kind of like a ~ (rescuer didn’t hear screams of bystanders)
tunnel vision versus an open mind
~ (criminal investigations)
♦ "He’s got target fixation." (A military pilot.)
perception, perspective & point of view: infrastructure
turbocharge (verb)
turbocharged this (global social-media) ecosystem
the alt-right has ~ of hatred
increase & decrease: engine / verb
power: engine / verb
strength & weakness: engine / verb
speed: engine / verb
turbulence
political turbulence
the ~ in the Palestinian Authority
conflict: air / atmosphere / water
turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
turbulent relationship
they had a ~
turbulent childhood
he emerged from a ~ emotionally brittle
flaws & lack of flaws: air / atmosphere / water
turf (control)
enemy turf
treading on ~
home turf
bring it to his ~
control & lack of control: ground, terrain & land
area: ground, terrain & land
turf (turf war, etc.)
turf battles
~ likely to ensue (federal agencies)
turf wars between the C.I.A. and F.B.I.
~ (9/11)
alcohol turf war
allegations of an ~ (Saudi Arabia)
absurd turf wars
a series of ~ between the C.I.A. and F.B.I. (9/11)
bloody turf wars
the gang endured ~s
fights over turf
~ for distributing the drugs (gangs)
series of (absurd) turf wars
a ~ between the C.I.A. and F.B.I. (9/11)
competition / conflict: ground, terrain & land
turn (transform)
turns from a hobby into an obsession
it ~ after a while (yo-yoing)
turn him from a criminal into a martyr
the Arabs will ~
turn into (physical) confrontations
verbal confrontations that ~ (police)
turned into a love affair
their friendship ~
turned into something more
it ~ (a relationship)
turned him into an advocate
his accident ~ for spinal cord research (Reeve)
turned (former) foes into allies
he has ~ (leader of Mexican drug cartel)
turned the telegraph into an antique
the telephone ~
turns a poem into a companion
memorization ~ (Billy Collins)
turns any meal into a feast
a good piece of fry bread ~
turns global into globalization
the kind of intercourse that ~ (Silk Road)
turned Yakutat into a (surfing) hotspot
they have ~ (Alaska)
turn the discussion into a lecture
don’t ~ (advice to teachers)
turned Patteson into a (Christian) martyr
the murder ~ (Melanesia)
turned his (difficult) childhood into music
50 Cent ~ (rapper)
turned the dream into a nightmare
the loans have ~ (home ownership)
turn a cult activity into a mainstream sport
he helped ~ (surfing)
turned to grief
but euphoria ~… (all miners but one actually dead)
turned to panic
fear ~ (1918 flu pandemic)
turns to trust
distrust ~ when people get to know you
turned it to his advantage
he ~
turned angry
the march ~
turned fatal
his good deed ~ when…
turn tragic
a relatively minor mistake can ~ (climbing)
turned from bad to worse
the situation in Somalia has ~
creation & transformation: direction / verb
turn (turn to something, etc.)
turn
I didn't know which way to ~
turned to the Internet to get
she ~ information on how to...
turn to plastic surgery to look
they ~ young
turned to Sununu to strike back
he ~ (politics)
turn to Crazy Horse for answers
1 ~
turn to God for forgiveness
we must constantly ~
turn to traditional healers for help
8 in 10 South Africans ~ (sangomas)
turn to (school) officials for help
young lesbians will not ~ when...
turns to the I.M.F. for a loan
the next time it ~
turning to Islam
they are ~
turns to Allah
if a person sincerely ~, seeking His help...

turned to his allies
Zhou ~ in the local police (labor problems)

turn to anybody
when there’s no one else to listen to you, you’ll ~ (gay)

turn to drugs
youth who ~ in an effort to escape their circumstances

turned to drugs
they ~ as a way of dealing with isolation and... (gay students)

turn to faith
to cope with combat, soldiers often ~

turned to poetry
he ~, his source of solace in times of difficulty

turning to sources
Western scientists are ~ they once disparaged...

turned to sports
they ~ to boost sagging morale (soldiers in war zone)

turn to terrorism
enemies who cannot compete conventionally often ~

turned to the (Wyoming) can-do spirit
but talk at the meeting ~

turned to the Adult Friend Finder
he ~ dating service...

turn to traditional healers
8 in 10 South Africans ~ for help (sangomas);
undocumented workers ~ (Mexicans in US)

no one (there for me) to turn to
there was ~

alternatives & choices: direction

**turn (turn against / on something)**

turned on her
her friends ~

turned on each other
two of the main rebel factions have ~ (Darfur)

turn on the president
he won’t ~

turned on us
the tools we use have ~ (technology)

turned (ruthlessly) against e-mail
Mr. Ferriss ~ (author of "The 4-Hour Workweek")

turned against the war
he was a Vietnam veteran who later ~

♦ "The enraged elephant then turned on the tourists, charging the crowd."
♦ "The performing elephant turned on its handler and then charged..."

**allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / verb**

**turn (take a turn)**

took a turn for the better
their marriage ~
our luck ~…

took a turn for the worse
at nightfall, Jason ~ (injured Ranger / combat)
her condition has taken a ~

took a (sharp) turn for the worse
his uncertain health ~

took a devastating turn
and then the case ~ (missing woman found murdered)

took another dramatic turn
the case ~ when… (murder)

took an unexpected turn
the case ~ (murder trial)

took a grim turn
his troubled life ~ when he was shot... (bipolar)

took a romantic turn
their friendship ~

took a sharp turn
his uncertain health ~ for the worse

took a sour turn
the day ~ when… (fight at park)

took a tragic turn
events ~ (student party)

taken an ugly turn
things have ~ (awkward moment)

path took an (unexpected) turn
her life’s ~ (serious injury)

**development: direction / verb**

**turn (development)**

turn of events
parishioners expressed their sadness over the ~ (abuse)

turns of events
stunned by ~ you never saw coming

plot turn
~s, notable scenes, acting performances

upturn
our management team is focusing on the ~ (business)

180-degree turn
a ~ of public opinion

twists and turns
the plot has many ~ (movie)

his career has taken many ~

**development: direction / journeys & trips**
turn (wrong turn)

wrong turns
like a lot of historical ~, LGBTQ means well (the term)
wrong turns and dead ends
the series had some ~ (a TV show)

failure, accident & impairment: direction / movement / journeys & trips

turnabout (reversal)

turnabout
for the computer industry this is a ~
turnabout reflects
the ~ a recognition that… (diplomacy)

reversal: direction / trips & journeys

turn around (verb)

turned around CBS
he ~ (an executive)
turn around the economy
he will help Republicans ~
turn his life around
he is trying to ~ (a troubled athlete)
turn things around
we can ~
turn this thing around
we're going to ~ (improve schools)

amelioration & renewal / reversal: direction / verb

turnaround

turnaround plan
the ~ has not worked (hospital in debt)
abrupt turnaround
the decline in his fortunes represents an ~ since autumn
dramatic turnaround
in another ~ (football coach's fortunes)

reversal: direction

turn back (verb)

turn back
we can't ~ now… (plan)
we've gone too far to ~ now (politics)
we are in this fight for our lives, and we will not ~
(candidate)

progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips / verb

turn down (verb)

turn down clients
they were not allowed to ~ (sex slaves)
turn down an invitation

never ~ to go out… (dating)
turn down an offer
it's tempting to verbally ~ and skip writing a letter
turned down the part
he ~ (in a film)
turned down the (immigrants') requests
Italy has ~ for political asylum
turned down their requests
Germany ~ for political asylum
turned down his (zoning) request
Ann Arbor officials ~
turned down an (athletic) scholarship
he ~ from Villanova because…
turn down (extra) work
pilots invoked their contract right to ~
turn this offer down
few ~ ("john" school instead of court)
turned them down twice
school officials ~ (students request gay club)

acceptance & rejection: direction / verb

turned down

turned down for a job
if you are ~ because of credit problems…
no one is turned down
get a degree without tests, ~ (diploma mill)
get turned down
so many things that are very good ~ (screenplays)

acceptance & rejection: direction

turned off

turned off by (e-tailers') customer service
consumers are ~

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism

turned on

turned on by her
I was ~
really turned on
I was ~ by him

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism

turned up (discovered)

turned up by the FBI
based on information ~

searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land
turn in (give)

turn in (uninspiring, half-hearted) performances
boxers content to ~ (vs. Ward and Gatti)

turned in a performance
if the US team ~ that was better than... (soccer)
giving, receiving, bringing & returning: direction / verb
turning point

turning point in World War II
the battle of El Alamein was a ~
turning point in the battle
a ~ against entertainment violence

turning point of her career
it was the ~
turning point in my life
this was the ~
turning point in the history of the world
  it was a major ~ (gas attack at Ypres in 1915)

major turning point
it was a ~ in the history of the world (gas attack at Ypres)

marked the turning point
the battle ~

development: direction / mechanism
turn-off (disgust)
turn-off for (most) women
  a lack of humor is a major ~
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism
turn on (verb)
turns me on
  it ~ (risk of getting caught / adolescent lesbian)
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb
turn-on
turn-on for men
  the pursuit of revenge is a ~ (brain studies)

major turn-on
  her scent is a ~
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism
turn out (create)
turn out 10 times the amount
  super labs ~ of drugs (methamphetamine)

creation & transformation: direction / verb
turn out (develop)
turned out
  I was surprised by how it ~
  it makes sense the way it ~
turn out that
  it may ~ some anxiety disorders are caused by...
turns out that
  it ~ his girlfriend has already seen a lawyer
turn out to be the case
  that didn't ~
turn out to be nothing
  it may ~
turn out (quite) the way
  the next months did not ~ Scott had hoped
turn out to be easy
  that second goal didn't ~
turned out to be flawed
  the studies ~ (education)
turns out to be true
  it's a rare event when an Army rumor ~
turn out as advertised
  in Russia, things rarely ~ (Siberian adventure)
turned out OK
  my child ~ and I spanked him...
turn out best
  things ~ for people who make the best of things
turn out well
  when you make a decision and it doesn't ~ (regret)
    they can turn out to be heroes if things ~ (doctors)
turned out a lot worse
  the swim could have ~ considering... (kayaking)

development: direction / mechanism
turn out (rally)
turn out in force
  activists will ~ to back those who stood up... (gays)
turned out in (record) numbers
  rural voters ~ to vote out...
turned out in (far greater) numbers
  demonstrators ~ than predicted
turn out in droves
  democrats predicted minority voters would ~
turn out for revival
  thousands ~, river baptisms (Cane River, NC)
fans turn out
  only a few thousand ~ at RFK to watch (women's soccer)

appearance & disappearance: direction / verb
turnout (people)
turnout at the polls
  the election is expected to hang on ~
voter turnout
~ was less than 20 percent
there was a surge in ~ (Iraq election)

low turnout
the election was marred by ~
surge in (voter) turnout
there was a ~ (Iraq election)

stir up (Democratic) turnout
they sent leaders across the country to ~

appearance & disappearance: direction

turnover (work)

turnover rate
nursing aides and their high ~ rate

staff turnover
~ has been high (English school in Qatar)
teacher turnover
~ has also been high

nursing staff turnover
~ has been harmful
high turnover
a teaching corps marked by ~ (middle school / NYC)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: direction

turn up (increase)

turned up the heat
then he really ~ by starting a Web site accusing...

Increase & decrease: mechanism / verb

turn up (appear)

turned up at (local) parades
he ~ (a politician)
turned up at (gun) shows
blowguns also ~
turned up in (Robert's) bedroom
the knives later ~, bearing traces of blood
turn up in dormitories, co-ops, bookstores
Flugenmack posters ~
turn up in a few days
it'll ~ (a lost shoe)
turn up within a few weeks
most are found or ~ (the missing)
turn up during (road) construction
old bombs ~ (Germany)
turned up for the pig roast
around 2,000 people ~ (Indonesian Papua)
turn up next
where it might ~ (anthrax)

turned up next
the school rash ~ in northern Virginia
turned up well armed
Belgian troops ~ and ready to perform (UN force)
turned up dead
one more gangbanger who ~ beside a ditch;
Lina disappeared in 2000 and ~
turn up (here) regularly
now prominent foreigners ~ (Afghanistan)

virus has turned up
the dreaded West Nile ~ in New York City again...

body turned up
her ~ four days later with the corpse of...

nothing turned up
but ~ (search for missing woman)
something turns up
if ~, you're terminated (criminal background checks)

appearance & disappearance: ground / verb

turn up (discover)

turned up anything
we never ~ in that case (a detective)
turned up the drugs
a search of the car ~ (busted)
turned up (other) evidence
their inquiries ~ (murder investigation)
turned up (39) incidents
a computer check ~ over 15 years (crime)
turns up (unanticipated) information
sometimes an investigation ~
turn up problems
renovation at the high school did ~ with asbestos
turned up proof
intelligence services had never ~ of wrongdoing
failed to turn up
the schools ~ evidence of hazards (mystery rash)

investigation turned up
an ~ no criminal activity...

search (of her apartment) turned up
a ~ her packed luggage, jewelry...

search (of the car) turned up
a ~ drugs (busted)

searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb
tweak (noun)

small tweaks
the administration has made ~ to regulation and policy

amelioration & renewal: tools & technology
twin (the Twins, etc.)
the Twins
we visited ~ (Marshall Islands)
Twin Rocks
we sailed around ~ (Kemps Bay, the Bahamas)
Twin Peaks
I hiked to ~ (Australia)
Twin Lakes
she has a cabin on ~ (Ontario)
proper name: family
twist (verb)
twisted the facts
the magazine ~
corruption: direction / verb
twist (noun)
twist in the case
it was a sad ~
latest twist
he will speak about the ~ (diplomacy)
EFPs are the ~ in a lethal game of measure, countermeasure
sad twist
it was a ~ in the case
stunning twist
it was a ~
twists and turns
the plot has many ~ (movie)
twist and turn
he has covered every ~ in the story (a reporter)
development: direction
twisted (corruption)
twisted for (political) gain
in Washington, anything can be ~
twisted logic
genocide followed a ~
this is an example of ~
twisted psychology
the trial has been a showcase of ~ (murder)
perverted, twisted (m)
he is a man with a ~ mind
twisted world
she lives in a ~
mentally twisted
he is ~ (animal abuser)
numbers are twisted
corruption: direction
**twisted (character)**

- twisted killer
  - he is a ~
- twisted soul
  - he is a ~
- strange, twisted (m)
  - it takes a ~ person do what she did

**character & personality: direction**

**twitch (quick-twitch)**

- quick-twitch media
  - a ~, desperate to get it out, amplified flaws in the reporting

**control & lack of control: skin, muscle, nerves & bone**

**twitter-lashing (noun)**

- twitter-lashing by President Trump
  - this ~ towards the Kochs

**speech: violence / whip**

**accusation & criticism: violence / whip**

**tyrant**

- household tyrant
  - he was a terrible ~

**oppression / power: history**

**U**

**umbrella (protection)**

- air defense umbrella
  - air cover or an ~ is necessary
  - the passes lay outside the Egyptians' ~ (Sinai / 1973)

- protective umbrella
  - the Saudis did not want a U.S. ~

- nuclear umbrella
  - the US could extend its ~ to Israel, Egypt, and the Gulf

- Umbrellas were originally designed as sun shades for protection against the sun.

**protection & lack of protection: umbrella**

**umbrella (under an umbrella)**

- under the Taliban's umbrella
  - it is one of the main groups fighting ~

- work under the U.N. umbrella
  - 7,000 de-miners are at ~ (Afghanistan)

**cover: umbrella**

**umbrella (other)**

- umbrella agencies
  - get in touch with the ~ below…

- umbrella term
  - "transgender" is an ~ to describe people who…

**cover: umbrella**

**unblemished**

- unblemished record
  - he came to Glasgow with the title and an ~ (boxer)

**flaws & lack of flaws: mark**

**unbridled**

- unbridled ambition
  - Qatar has leveraged its oil wealth and ~
  - he is a man of ~

- unbridled authority
  - state's attorneys don’t have ~ to appoint special prosecutors

- unbridled capitalism
  - ~ undermines traditional social relations

- unbridled enthusiasm
  - he has the ~ of his party (a politician)
  - there are problems with ~

- unbridled expression
  - the Internet allows ~

- unbridled greed
  - our ~ caused the economic crisis
  - good for the company for saying no to ~ (a publisher)

- unbridled (economic) growth
  - pollution has been one of the downsides of China's ~

- unbridled imagination
  - musicians admired him for his ~ (a fellow musician)

- unbridled optimism
  - people praised his ~ in the face of his illness

- unbridled optimist
  - she is an ~

- unbridled passion
  - he has energy, enthusiasm and ~ of what's possible

- restraint & lack of restraint: horse

- constraint & lack of constraint: horse

- control & lack of control: horse

**uncharted (adjective)**

- uncharted territory
  - we’re in ~ in terms of predicting his recovery… (coma)
  - sending public opinion into ~

- uncharted water
  - the NCAA is wading into ~

- uncharted waters
  - this was ~ for us (youthful sex)

- uncharted (legal) waters
  - the charges have led the country into ~ (soldiers)
uncharted wilderness
new routes into the ~ of the 21-century economy

direction: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map / sea
certainty & uncertainty: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips / map / sea

unclear (adjective)
unclear
facts are scarce and sources are ~ (news rumors)
it’s very ~ what happened (school shooting)
certainty & uncertainty: light & dark
comprehension & lack of comprehension: light & dark
perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark

uncork (verb)
uncorked a declamation
he ~ on why America is no longer the greatest (TV show)
uncorked (long-suppressed) public opinion
the riots have ~

initiation: bottle / pressure

uncover (verb)
uncover
she would be surprised at the information she would ~
uncovered (more) bodies from a canal
rescue efforts ~ (Nigeria)

uncovered crimes
investigators dug into actions and ~

uncover explosives
troops conduct raids to carry out arrests and ~

uncover the (true) extent
he worked to ~ of bullying (schools)

uncovered an (unnerving) fact
he ~ (scientist / about influenza)

uncovered evidence
scientists digging south of Denver say they have ~ of....
well, we’ve ~ that points in a different direction (crime)

uncover any links
as federal agents work to ~ to terrorists

uncovered a (solid) motive
the investigation has not yet ~ (rap-shotting)

uncovered a plot
police ~ to blow up commercial jetliners (terrorists)

uncovered the (Sept. 11) plot
the FBI mishandled info that could have ~

uncovered a (growing muti-smuggling) racket
a newspaper has ~ (Swaziland)

uncovered (one or two more of the) terrorists
we could have ~... (9/11)

police uncovered
~ thousands (tapes by militant Islamists)

investigations can uncover
~ things that result in lawsuits

appearance & disappearance: ground, terrain & land / verb

searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / verb

concealment & lack of concealment: ground, terrain & land / verb

under (hierarchy)
under him
but because I was ~ (a company)

hierarchy: prep, adv, adj, particle / position

underbelly
underbelly of globalization
this is the ~ (toxic dumping in third world)

Glasgow’s (dark) underbelly
~ of vulnerability and danger (murdered prostitutes)

corrupt underbelly
did he know too much about boxing’s ~ (Sonny Listen)

dark underbelly
the ~ of just how far parents are willing to go (college admissions)

flaws & lack of flaws: orientation / stomach
appearance & reality: orientation / stomach

orientation: stomach
concealment & lack of concealment: orientation / stomach

undercurrent (noun)
undercurrent of extremism
there is a serious ~ (in a country)

constant undercurrent
the quest for identity is a ~ in the Middle East

concealment & lack of concealment / force: river

underdog (competition)
underdog
we don’t consider ourselves ~s (basketball team)
we’re the ~s (sports team)
he is an ~ (politics)

underdog potential
who has that ~ (NCAA tournament)

front-runners and underdogs
~ loved him (a race car driver)

consider ourselves underdogs
we don’t ~ (member of a basketball team)

competition: animal / dog / position

strength & weakness: animal / dog / position

superiority & inferiority: animal / dog / position
underdog (hierarchy)
underdog
  she was an ~ some cheered for (Anna Nicole)
underdog story
  it's an ~ set during the Depression (a film)

hierarchy: animal / dog / position

underground
underground church
  millions of Chinese Catholics worship in ~s
underground (extremist) group
  the ~ Army of God
underground magazine
  an ~ about dog fighting (illegal in US)
underground market
  drugs available on the ~
underground (anti-slavery) movement
  an ~
underground music
  acid-house was ~
underground churches and sects
  the spread of ~
underground and the mainstream
  he is stuck between the ~ (Shaun White in 2010)
cyber underground
  the ~ was abuzz with rumors
drives it underground
  cracking down on sex trafficking just ~
drive sex offenders underground
  Iowa's residency rules ~

environment / society: direction
concealment & lack of concealment: direction

underground railroad
underground railroad
  an ~ to get workers across the border (from Mexico)

resistance, opposition & defeat: history

underhand (or underhanded)
underhand tactics
  his side was subjected to ~ (sports)
underhanded tricks
  protect yourself from ~
underhand ways
  she employs ~ to get ahead
covet & underhanded
  racism can be ~ (versus in your face)

subterfuge: direction / hand

underlie (verb)
underlie the (chronic) inflammation
  allergic symptoms may ~
underlie the insurgency
  we must address the problems that ~
underlie mating games
  she is testing out the social skills that ~ (a teen girl)

Geological basins and basement rocks underlie the Nullarbor Plain.
(Geology.)
bases: direction / verb

underline (attention)
double underline
  we need to ~ the conclusion (of a report)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters / verb

underlying
underlying causes
  an understanding of the ~
underlying concept
  the approach and its ~s
underlying condition
  does not help the ~
underlying explanation
  no one challenged the ~ for the sudden death
underlying factors
  the ~ that contributed to the disaster (NASA)
underlying felony
  armed robbery was the ~ in the murders
underlying infrastructure
  a deep flaw in the ~ (Microsoft security flaw)
underlying injuries
  the diagnosis of ~
underlying issues
  ~ include emotional immaturity, feelings of inferiority
underlying message
  understand their ~ (autistic behaviors)
underlying principle
  a world in which modesty is the ~ (Muslim girl)
underlying (Buddhist) principles
  a draft constitution based on ~ (Bhutan)
underlying (psychological) problems
underlying question
  imaging research has not answered the ~ (psychiatry)
underlying theme
  CBS stuck to the ~ of the report (expose)
underlying unity
our quest for some elusive ~
underlying medical condition regardless of their ~

bases: direction

undermine (verb)
undermine assumptions
the finding, if upheld, would ~ that... (migration)
undermine cohesion
disparities in compensation ~ among troops
undermined confidence
fear has ~ in the food supply (avian flu)
undermines (investor) confidence
corruption ~ in new ventures
undermine cooperation
selfish, exploitative people quickly ~
undermine (U.S.) credibility
deliberate lies ~ (foreign policy)
undermine the (Eritrean) government
Sudan's government tried to ~ (1990s)
undermined the law
religious fanaticism has ~ (Pakistan)
undermine morale
inefficient distribution of mail can ~ (military)
undermine relationships
you can ~ with insecurity and jealousy
undermines their (own academic) reputation
reviewers may react harshly to research that ~
undermine security
they use terrorism to sow fear and ~
undermine (global) security
a missile-defense system will ~
undermined (fundamental) values
popular culture has ~
undermines his sex drive
his performance anxiety ~
undermined his self-confidence
the rejections ~ (job hunting)
threatens to undermine
lawlessness ~ investor confidence

failure, accident & impairment: mining / verb

underneath (reality)
underneath the bravado
~ there is fear
appearance & reality: direction
appearance & reality: prep, adv, adj, particle

underscore (attention)
underscores the need
the report ~ for better data
underscored (recently) when
the difficulties that women have was ~
attention, scrutiny & promotion: letters & characters / verb

underside (noun)
underside of the miracle
but the ~ is... (booming economy but problems)
ugly underside
the ~ of America’s most popular sport (football)
flaws & lack of flaws: orientation / stomach
appearance & reality: orientation / stomach
orientation: stomach
concealment & lack of concealment: orientation / stomach

underwater (adjective)
$20.5 billion underwater
the federal flood insurance program is currently ~
survival, persistence & endurance: water

underway
underway
an economic recovery is ~
efforts ~ to develop job opportunities for those...
underway in Azerbaijan
the alphabet reform ~
underway on the dam
construction is ~
already underway
a disaster accelerates economic changes that are ~
an improvement plan is ~
currently underway
a second, larger study is ~ (rehab therapy)
now underway
an NIH-sponsored double-blind study is ~ to evaluate...
well underway
construction is ~ on the dam
buzz was underway
the water cooler ~ (Olympic controversy)
coup was underway
one of the rogue officers denied a ~ (Philippines)
work is underway
construction ~ on Ethiopia’s huge Gibe III dam
trials are underway
randomized controlled ~ (medicine)
got underway
as the trial ~, prosecutors knew they had an uphill climb
starting, going, continuing & ending: boat / journeys & trips

underworld

underworld figures
the bar is a favorite for ~ (crime)

Kyrgyzstan’s (powerful criminal) underworld
the government may be trying to rein in ~

environment / society: direction
concealment & lack of concealment: direction

unearth (verb)

unearth documents
the unit can ~ erased from hard drives (police)

unearthed evidence
FBI investigators ~ to show his involvement in IS
the podcast claimed it had ~ that corroborated his alibi

♦ Workmen recently unearthed a 500-pound World War II bomb at Portsmouth Naval Base. It was detonated by bomb-disposal experts.

searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb

unearthed

unearthed experiment
a recently ~ prompted US authorities to apologize

searching & discovery: ground, terrain & land / mining / verb

unfathomable

unfathomable
this murder is so senseless, it’s ~

unfathomable to him
the decision was ~ (business)

unfathomable stupidity
he survived due to the ~s of the regime (W.W. II)

heartbreaking and unfathomable
his murder was ~ (a rapper)

seem unfathomable
falsely admitting to a crime may ~ to many

comprehension & incomprehension: sea / water

unfettered

unfettered
tyey can buy weapons ~ (in US)

unfettered access
she has ~ to files (an investigator)
the church will give ~ to documents (sex abuse investigation)

unfettered press
people paid attention to their increasingly ~ (change)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime

unfold (discover)

unfolding details
investigators are rapidly ~ of the plot (terrorism)

searching & discovery: cloth / verb

unfold (develop)

unfolding in chapters
the mystery is ~ (missing plane)

still unfolding
the story is ~

events will unfold
agility requires an ability to visualize how ~ (military)

watched their own drama unfold
passengers ~ on satellite TV sets (JetBlue Flight 292)

development: cloth

unfolding (developing)

unfolding in Japan
a catastrophe has been ~ (nuclear problem)

unfolding disaster
a Greek chorus comments on the ~

still-unfolding (m)
a chapter in the ~ story

development: cloth

unfolding (opening)

unfolding blossoms
the ~ of the fruit trees

resemblance: cloth

unglued

came unglued
she ~ in the courtroom

failure, accident & impairment: materials & substances
control & lack of control: materials & substances
feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances

unhealthy (condition)

something unhealthy at Manchester United
there is ~

condition & status: health & medicine

unicorn (rarity)

tech “Unicorns”
Blipper was one of the UK’s ~

♦ A tech unicorn is a start-up worth $1 billion or more.

worth & lack of worth: creature

computer: creature
universe
surfer's (turquoise) universe
the ~ (tubes, barrels, pipelines, etc.)
yachting universe
Cape Horn is regarded as the Mount Everest of the ~
basketball universe
Indiana is the center of the ~
board-sport universe
in the ~
academic universe
more settled fields in the ~ (vs. black studies)
center of the (basketball) universe
Indiana is the ~
♦ -Verse has become a suffix, for example, the Twitterverse.
environment: astronomy
unleash (verb)
unleashed a ($350 million) campaign to persuade Microsoft ~... (ad)
unleash (even more) oil into the Gulf
it could ~ (a plan to stop oil spill)
unleashed a (powerful) shot from 20 meters
he ~ (soccer)
unleashed a (mortar) barrage
the Wa ~ and the Thais responded with...
unleashed his blows
Tyson charged up to Lewis and ~... (boxing)
unleash a flood
Tibetans fear the rail line will ~ of Han immigrants
defeat of the bill will ~ of negative advertising (politics)
unleashes forces
war ~ that cannot be predicted or controlled
unleashed its fury
the massive storm ~ (tornadoes)
unleashed (additional rocket) salvos
Palestinians have ~ (from Gaza)
unleashed a storm
congressmen ~ of patriotic rage
unleashed (heavy) rain and (strong) winds
thunderstorms ~ across parts of the Midwest
unleashes a torrent
in the play's final scene, she unleashes a ~ of fury at…
unleashed a wave
they ~ of protest
unleashed a bloodbath
the bombing of the Mosque of the Gold Dome ~
unleashed a whirlwind
the dictator's ouster ~ of pent-up civic forces (Suharto)
unleash a civil war
then Mr. Taylor returned to Liberia to ~
initiation: dog / verb
unleashed
unleashed against (the area's) Muslims
the repression ~ (Xinjiang)
unleashed by (fanatical) terrorists
the violence ~ (Muslims)
unleashed by (emotional) trauma
hysteria as a nervous-system disorder ~
genie (of racial hatred) has been unleashed
the ~ (Ivory Coast)
initiation: dog
unlock (verb)
unlocks the mystery
this could be the key that ~
searching & discovery: key / verb
amelioration & renewal: key / verb
unmaking (destruction)
making and unmaking
the book describes her ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)
destruction: manufacturing
unpack (verb)
unpacking (implicit racial) bias
for two decades she has been ~
unpack the idea
the way I ~ is that…
unpack that
let me ~...
♦ This is similar to unpick, which literally means to remove stitches.
analysis, interpretation & explanation: container / verb
unpick (verb)
unpick one or two of those things
let's ~ (discussion of Hapsburg Monarchy on BBC)
unpick this chain of events
we sought to ~ in our film
♦ This literally means to remove stitches.
analysis, interpretation & explanation: cloth / verb
unpolished
unpolished charm
the movie's ~ dissolves into predictability
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances
unravel (fail)
unraveled at an accelerating pace
those norms have ~
unraveling in Iraq
with no criminal or psychiatric history, he had started ~
started unraveling
with no criminal or psychiatric history, he had ~ in Iraq
harmony (of Russia’s nationalities) is unraveling
the enforced ~
life began to unravel
her ~ when…
case (against him) may be unravelling
the ~
meeting (quickly) unraveled
the ~ (diplomacy)
norms unraveled
those ~, replaced by an ethos of “anything goes”
pact unraveled
the power-sharing ~ (Sierra Leone)

failure, accident & impairment: cloth / verb
unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.)
unravel the case
we followed the thread and began to ~ (tapes of old trial)
looking for a clue that would ~
unravel the mystery
they are trying to ~ of tornadoes (storm chasers)
unraveled the mystery
satellites have ~ of Mars’ geological patterns ("spiders")

searching & discovery: cloth / verb
amelioration & renewal: rope / verb
unraveled

unsavory
unsavory connections
he has ~ (a tribal leader)
unsavory means
he became rich through ~
unsavory methods
he is known for his ~ (politician)
unsavory past
he is a loose cannon with an ~ (politician)
unsavory reputation
he has an ~

unsavory side
he showed his ~
illegal or unsavory
he engaged in practices that were ~ (businessman)
♦ Something may taste or smell savory. Stews and goulashes can have a savory smell. Savory is related to palatable.

feeling, emotion & effect: taste
corruption: food & drink
consumption: food & drink / taste
flaws & lack of flaws: food & drink / taste

unscathed (adjective)
left the debate unscathed
his main rival ~ (politics)

affliction: health & medicine / wounds & scars
unseat (verb)
unseated the incumbent Republican
he almost ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: horse
unstable (adjective)
unstable
the regime is ~

flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability
unshackle (verb)
unshackle itself from the past
hopefully, the sport can ~ (cycling and doping)

constraint & lack of constraint: crime / verb
unsung (praise)
unsung hero
the ~ for me was... (a championship soccer game)

achievement, recognition & praise: music
untangle (verb)
untangled the history from the mythology
we ~ to get the true story of what happened (podcast)

amelioration & renewal: cloth / verb
analysis & interpretation: cloth / verb

untouchable
untouchables of academia
it’s a caste system, and we are the ~ (an adjunct)

acceptance & rejection / hierarchy: society
society: person
person: society
unvarnished (adjective)
unvarnished advice
he had some ~ for him
appearance & reality: materials & substances
unveil (make public)
unveiled a new approach
the government ~ to...
unveiled its (welfare) reforms
the government ~
inaguration: clothing & accessories / verb
unwavering (adjective)
unwavering
his support is ~
total and unwavering
our amazing veterans deserve our ~ support
commitment & determination: equilibrium & stability / movement
unwind (verb)
unwind
he watched TV and tried to ~ after work
crime documentaries have become my default way to ~
amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb
up (increase)
up our game
we need to ~
upped the tariffs
the Trump administration has ~
increase & decrease: direction / verb
up (your time is up, etc.)
time is up
my ~
timeliness & lack of timeliness: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
up (feeling)
up
keep your hopes ~
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / prep, adv, adj, particle
up (higher)
up
employment is ~
suicide rates are ~
increase & decrease: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
up (ups and downs)
ups and downs
there's going to be a lot of ~ in the months to come
~ are simply a part of life (self-compassion)

she had her ~ (an athlete)

development: direction
up (up for something)
up for the challenge
people wonder if he is ~ (running for president)

allegiance, support & betrayal: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
commitment & determination: direction / prep, adv, adj, particle
upend (verb)
upend the (financial) industry
looming challenges will ~
upended (entire) industries
Amazon, Netflix and Uber ~ (technology)
upended the (presidential) race
he ~ this week by picking…
equilibrium & stability: orientation / verb
disruption: orientation / verb
upheaval (disruption)
upheaval
the miners' action has opened the floodgates to more ~
upheaval of Ruiz’s shock win
a few weeks of calm after the ~ over Joshua (boxing)
disruption: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land
effect: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land
equilibrium & stability: earthquake / ground, terrain & land
feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake / equilibrium & stability / ground, terrain & land
uphill (difficult)
uphill battle
passage of the monumental law was an ~
education on overfishing is an ~ (sharks, etc.)

uphill fight
it will be an ~ (to win an election)

uphill struggle
a difficult and ~
difficult and uphill (m)
a ~ struggle
difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / mountains & hills
uppercutting
upper-cutting guests with a sharp line of questioning
she was known for her tough interviewing style, ~

conflict: boxing
uprising (resistance)
wave of (democratic) uprisings
a ~ is transforming the Islamic world
resistance, opposition & defeat: direction
uproar (controversy)
political uproar
the politics of mother's milk has created a ~
uproar (eventually) died down
the ~ (dismissal of coach)
caused an uproar
the sanitized edition of 'Huckleberry Finn' has ~
provoked uproar
the case has ~ (guns versus domestic violence)
sparked an uproar
his dismissal ~ on campus (popular coach Bobby Knight)
triggered the uproar
what ~ was an incendiary post at a Website
conflict: sound
amount & effect: sound
uprooted
uprooted from rebel-held east Aleppo
thousands have been ~
dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / tree
upside (noun)
upside
the ~ is things could be worse
has an upside
the financial system has an ~
depression ~
have an upside
the predicament could ~
flaws & lack of flaws: orientation
upside down
turned upside down
then her life ~ (World War II)
turned our lives upside down
his illness ~
turn the system upside down
the proposed new tests will ~ (education)
turning the town upside down
the mystery is ~ (missing children)
disruption / equilibrium & stability: orientation
upstage (verb)
upstaged them on their home snow
he ~ (an Olympic skier)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: theater / verb
orientation: direction / theater / verb
upstanding
upstanding member
he is an ~ of the community
character & personality: direction / height
upstream (swim upstream)
swimming upstream
modern women are ~ (juggling various duties)
difficulty, easiness & effort: direction / orientation / river
orientation: direction / orientation / river
upsurge (noun)
upsurge in (volcanic) activity
there is no suggestion the ~ is related
increase & decrease: direction
uptick (noun)
uptick in attacks
there has been an ~ (war)
increase & decrease: direction
upturn (noun)
upturn in exports
there has been an ~
upturn in the market
the company will profit from any ~
upturn is under way
there are hopes for an ~ in the spring or summer
sharp upturn
the political unrest has caused a ~ in oil prices
delay this (vulnerable economic) upturn
a conflict with Iran could yet ~ (in US)
signal an upturn
the numbers ~ in the economy
increase & decrease: economy
usher in (verb)
usher in a new age
the Republicans seek to ~ of limited government
usher in a more socially conservative approach
democrats warn Trump’s choice will ~ to abortion
usher in change
much blood has been shed to ~
ushered in a second sexual revolution
the digital revolution has ~
usher in the sixties
he helped to ~ with a new style of journalism (Tom Wolfe)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: doors & thresholds / theater / verb

usurp (verb)
usurp the (congressional) power
his plan will ~ of the purse (politics)
control & lack of control: crime / royalty / verb
taking & removing: crime / royalty / verb
possession: crime / royalty / verb

U-turn
U-turn on (school) reform
scholar's ~ shakes up debate
scholar's U-turn
~ on school reform shakes up debate
reversal: letters & characters

vacuum (noun)
vacuum of power
there is a ~ developing in the Middle East
policy vacuum
there was a ~ in Washington (government)
presence & absence: air / atmosphere

valence (attraction)
hateful valence
the ~ of that gesture is an open question (okay sign)
attraction & repulsion: chemistry

valley (Silicon Valley, etc.)
Crypto Valley
the canton of Zug is now known as ~ (Switzerland)
Silicon Valley
she was the golden girl of ~ (Elizabeth Holmes)

proper name: mountains & hills

valley (noun)
peaks and valleys
it's a long season, you're going to have ~
progress & lack of progress: mountains & hills
shape: mountains & hills

vandal (noun)
army of vandals
Rome's art heritage is under attack by an ~

destruction: allusion / history / person

vanguard (in the vanguard)
in the vanguard of (iceboat) design
the company is ~
driving force: military

vanguard (other)
vanguard of change
young people are acknowledged as the ~
acknowledged as the vanguard
young people are ~ of change
Palsars serve in the vanguard of the Israeli military forces.
driving force: military

vanishing (disappearance)
vvanishing plants
save the genetic legacy of ~ (seed vault on Svalbard)
vvanishing species
he's a ~ (moderate Republican)
appearance & disappearance: death & life
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: death & life
vantage point (from a vantage point)
from our vantage point
it's difficult to believe ~ (now)
from the vantage point of the victims
perception, perspective & point of view: position

varsity (noun)
varsity
this is not the JV team, this is the ~ (a gang)
experience / group, set & collection: sports & games

vault (verb)
vaulting into the top tier
he is ~ of TV interviewers
progress & lack of progress: walking, running & jumping / verb

vegetable (consciousness)
vegetable
if she makes it she'll probably be a ~ (head injuries)
consciousness & awareness: fruits & vegetables

veil (covering)
veil of (glowing) clouds
an hour after sunset a ~ appears (noctilucent)
veil of (limestone) dust
a slab resting on the dirt floor under a ~
cover / resemblance: clothing & accessories
**veil (under a veil)**
under the veil of darkness
the rustlers steal cattle ~ (Dakota)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

**veil (concealment)**

veil of mystery
the desert "wears a ~" (Edward Abbey)

veil of secrecy
sky watchers have pierced the ~ (spaceplane)
the ~ was finally lifted over the weekend…

parted the veil
US officials have ~ of secrecy to reveal…

pierced the veil
sky watchers have ~ of secrecy (spaceplane)

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

**veiled**

veiled in secrecy
how money was disbursed was ~ (US aid to Pakistan)

veiled references
the song has ~ to the shooting (rap feuds)

veiled threats
direct or ~ of harm

thinly veiled (m)
~ contempt
reporters used ~ racist terms—gorilla, beast (Liston)

not-so-veiled (m)
a ~ reference to his homosexuality

direct or veiled (m)
~ threats of harm

**concealment & lack of concealment: clothing & accessories**

**vein (tap a vein)**
tapping that vein of American sentiment
he is ~ (nativism and anti-immigrants)

**identity & nature: blood**

**vein (in that vein, etc.)**
in that vein
~ the campaign released an online ad on Monday…

**starting, going, continuing & ending: mining**

**vein (source)**

vein of pain
there's a pretty deep ~ that runs through these songs

similar vein
in a ~, what do you think is the greatest failure…

tapped the vein
he has ~ of popular outrage over… (politician)

**source: mining**

**vein (ice in one's veins)**

ice in his veins
he has ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: blood / temperature**

**velvet (Velvet Revolution)**

Velvet Revolution
the ~ ended communist rule (Czechoslovakia / 1989)

**conflict: hardness & softness**

**vendetta**

vendetta against him
he believes the group has a ~

political vendetta
he has called the case a ~ (convicted politician)

**revenge / conflict: violence**

**veneer (appearance)**

democratic veneer
despite a ~, the government retains oppressive control

religious veneer
they offer a ~ but they are ruthless and corrupt

**appearance & reality: materials & substances**

**venerate (verb)**

venerate Ronald Reagan
Republicans ~

venerated him
everyone ~ (an Ethiopian leader who died)

**importance & significance: religion / verb**

reverence: religion / verb

**Venice (epithet)**

Venice of the Middle East
Basra was once called the ~ (for its canals)

Venice of the North
St. Petersburg, the ~

**canal: allusion / epithet / place**

**venom (noun)**

social venom
they are sowing hatred and ~ (politics)

rhetoric, the venom, the demagoguery
after witnessing the inflamed ~

spewed venom
she ~ (neurotic woman)
venomous (adjective)

venomous
the debate is becoming increasingly ~

venomous creatures
women were these ~ (a teen girl bullied by other girls)

vent (verb)

vent about the issues
he wanted to do more than just ~ (a terrorist)

vented their anger
voters ~ by voting him out of office

vented their disdain
fans ~ through chants

vent frustration
it offers her a safe place to ~ (New Teacher Institute)

vented frustration
the president ~ with his own party

vent their anger with stones
they ~ (angry Palestinian kids)

vent for a while
take her someplace calm and let her ~ (crying kid)

verdict (noun)

verdict is (still) out on that
the ~ (a policy)

Judgment: Justice

verge (on the verge)

on the verge of being sent
she is ~ to jail

on the verge of a catastrophe
the country is ~ (China / AIDS)

on the verge of collapse
the provincial government is ~ (Iraq)

on the verge of combat
troops ~

on the verge of elimination
now the Jazz are ~ (NBA playoffs)

on the verge of eradication
the disease had been ~ (polio)

on the verge of extinction

some languages are ~ (few speakers left);
to others we are the "noble savages" ~ (Canada)
bluefin tuna are ~ in the Mediterranean

on the verge of orgasm
she was ~

on the verge of sex
being ~ and discovering you've got no birth control

on the verge of tears
he seemed ~ as the verdict was read

on the verge of war
with the US ~ with Iraq

on the verge of a (nervous) breakdown
I'm ~

on the verge of overrunning
when they again seemed ~ the small force

on the verge of passing out
14-year-olds vomiting, ~ (high-school dance)

on the verge of losing consciousness
he doesn't inhale until ~ (drowning)

proximity: ground, terrain & land

verge (to the verge)

to the verge of war
Kashmir has pushed them to the ~ (Pakistan and India)
pushed them to the verge
Kashmir has ~ of war (Pakistan and India)

proximity: ground, terrain & land

vest (play something close to the vest)

plays that close to his vest
as to whether he is a socialist, he ~ (a politician)

concealment & lack of concealment: cards / gambling / hand / sports & games

veteran (noun)

crafty veteran
he is a ~ of Middle East negotiating

experience: military

veteran (adjective)

veteran roster
the US must add young blood to its ~ (women's soccer)

experience: military

viable (adjective)

viable campaign
most do not think he can mount a ~ (election)

viable challenger
it is doubtful there will be a ~ to the President (election)
viable solution
there is still no ~ in sight

stay viable
rural schools are working to ~

success & failure: baby / birth / death & life
creation & transformation: baby / birth / death & life
growth & development: baby / birth / death & life
viability (political viability, etc.)

political viability
many like his ideas, but his ~ has been questioned

success & failure: baby / birth / death & life
creation & transformation: baby / birth / death & life
growth & development: baby / birth / death & life

vicious circle
it's in the nature of ~s that they're hard to stop

reverse a vicious circle
people of good will can ~

conflict: shape
feeling, emotion & effect: shape
sequence: shape

victim (fall victim to something)
fell victim to a (common human) failing
he ~ (padding his resume)
fall victim to the (cheap) hashish
the young easily ~ (Arab immigrants in France)
fall victim to the stress
but there are ways to not ~ (sports psychology)
fell victim to accident or illness
whether someone simply ~ (vs. crime)
falling victim to black magicians
more and more hapless people have been ~ (in the UAE)
fallen victim to human trafficking
thousands of Moldovan women have ~
fell victim to a rush to judgment
she ~ by police following the murder

predation: animal / verb

Vietnam (epithet)

Egypt's Vietnam
Nasser lamented war in Yemen had become ~ (1967)

Britain's Vietnam
"the War in Afghanistan, ~" (Daily Mail, 2006)

Sri Lanka’s Vietnam
the fight against the Tamils was ~
♦ In Vietnam the Vietnam War is called the American War.

experience: military

view (verb)

view stress as a challenge
some workers ~ rather than a burden
view drownings as avoidable accidents
juries tend to ~
view drugs as part of their social lives
they ~ (young people)
view it as their main job
high school is demanding, and kids need to ~
view the computer as another toy
a tot under age 3 will ~ at his disposal
view this as a case of doping
we don't ~ (competitive bicycling)
view the other members as competition
people often ~ for jobs (networking)
view the problem as (pretty) serious
I ~
view things through an ethnic lens
he refused to ~ (Afghan military man)
view conflict through a theological lens
he does not ~ (Middle East)
view both with skepticism
we should ~ (explanations and prophecies)
view him with deep suspicion
view these programs skeptically
many judges ~ (for batterers)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye / verb

view (in view)
in view of the changes
~ e-commerce is bringing, can book stores survive
in view of yesterday's action
~, what's your position on that…
in view of lack of concealment
CAS is more important in desert warfare ~

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

view (in somebody's view)
in the view of (tobacco) critics
in the view of specialists
~, the situation…
in the view of the Special Representative
~, there is no doubt… (UN)
in Morison's view
~ there is a 1-in-5,000 chance that…
in his view
~, the Cherokee culture is in danger because…
in my view
~, interpretation has an important role to play in…
in your view
which of the five Central Asian nations, ~, can we trust…

**perception, perspective & point of view: eye**

view (opinion)

view that
scientists challenged the ~…

view of abortion
whenever I asked what the local ~ was…

view of the (Jack the Ripper) story
a revisionist ~

view of sin, marriage and human nature
a more tolerant ~ (adultery)

views on children
we both have the same ~

views on the issue
her ~ changed (Ann Landers / divorce)

view on (social) issues
the mainstream Saudi ~ (women in sports, etc.)

views on race
whatever his ~

views on politics and religion
his complex ~

views on intelligence and genetics
he holds controversial ~

views on how
indigenous peoples have ~ the land should be utilized

views on whether
he called in to offer his ~ Arab nationalism was dead

views on Islam
the mosque attracted worshippers with militant ~

view on Wall Street
the consensus ~ is…

views on stoning
she tried to avoid stating her ~ (Iranian official)

views and opinions
we encourage individuals to express their ~

President’s view
what’s the ~ on that (press question)

administration’s view
what is the ~ how the talks stand right now

outsider’s view
an ~

consensus view

the ~ on Wall Street is…
establishment view
the BBC tended to take an ~

minority view
the Hippocratic Oath represented the ~

mainstream (Saudi) view
the ~ on social issues (women in sports, etc.)

anti-establishment view
prison terms strengthen ~s

opposing views
to justify their ~s…

accepted views
his studies were controversial and challenged ~

distorted view
the media has presented a ~ of the case

widely held view
the books debunk the ~ that…

Saudi view
the mainstream ~ on social issues (women in sports)

Western and Arab views
the difference in perspective between the ~ of Hezbollah

complex views
his ~ on politics and religion

controversial views
he holds ~ on intelligence and genetics

conventional view
scientists said their findings challenged the ~ that…

different views
there were a number of ~ on this

dim view
lawmakers took a ~ of people who…

local view
whenever I asked what the ~ of abortion was…

militant views
the mosque attracted worshippers with ~ on Islam

optimistic view
whites hold a more ~ than minorities about race relations

pessimistic view
those holding this ~

racist views
~ have influenced his decisions (politics)

revisionist view
a ~ of the Jack the Ripper story

same views
we both have the ~ on children

strong views
this article includes some ~
indigenous peoples have ~ about the land
tolerant view
  a more ~ of sin, marriage and human nature (adultery)
unpopular views
  speakers with ~
politically correct views
  Abraham-Santos had all the appropriate ~
more optimistic view
  whites generally hold a ~ than minorities about race relations
number of (different) views
  there were a ~ on this
speakers with (unpopular) views
worshippers with (militant) views
  the mosque attracted ~ on Islam
view (on the issue) changed
  her ~ (Ann Landers / divorce)
views evolved
  yet she was not rigid, and her ~ (Ann Landers)
view is echoed
  his ~ by many Central Asians... (a university professor's)
debunk the (widely held) view
  the books ~ that…
express their views
  we encourage individuals to ~ and opinions
heard a different view
  I ~ from Dr. Muhammad al-Musfir
make your views known
  ~ (elections, democracy)
denounced the view as hypocritical
  he ~
perception, perspective & point of view: eye
view (perspective)
  helicopter view
    sometimes you have to take the ~
warped views
  he denigrates ideas that don’t dovetail with his ~
long view
  India has always taken the ~
strategic view
  they are taking the ~ (terrorists chose not to fight)
bird’s-eye view
  drones give commanders a ~ of the battlefield
  you get a ~ from a plane
fisheye view
  a ~ from Spirit's navigation camera shows… (Mars)

point of view
  (see point of view)
colors his views
  his vegetarianism ~ of certain countries
taking the strategic view
  they are ~ (terrorists chose not to fight, wait US out)
perception, perspective & point of view: eye
view (out of view)
dropped out of (public) view
  he ~ (politician)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye
consciousness & awareness: eye
appearance & disappearance: eye
view (attention)
public view
  wall off some things from ~
attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye
viewed
viewed as apostasy
  conversions from Islam are ~ (Egypt)
viewed (by many Estonians) as a symbol
  the monument is ~ of... (USSR)
viewed as a tradition
  the practice is ~ (polygamy / eastern Turkey)
viewed as the will of God
  in the Philippines, pain is ~
viewed with suspicion
  Mormonism is ~ by Christian conservatives (politics)
perception, perspective & point of view: eye
viral (computers)
viral video
  what to release in an age of ~ (reporting school massacre)
  he's watching a ~ of a drunk cat (party)
go viral
  she saw a video of herself ~ on YouTube (a celebrity)
went viral
  the pictures ~ on the Internet
transmission: health & medicine
  computer: health & medicine
virgin (noun)
  virgin market
    the Arab markets are a ~ for local TV (Afghanistan)
gambling virgin
  we're ~s (two young women at Las Vegas)
virulent (adjective)

virulent form
our social ailments include a ~ of stupidity (elections)
virulent hatred
they espouse a ~
virulent opposition
the statement provoked ~ from the Communists

transmission: health & medicine

virus (computers)

computer virus
~ is spreading

computer: health & medicine

vise (pressure)
vise is closing
~ on Saddam's regime (Operation Iraqi Freedom)
caught in the (same) vise
middle-class teenagers ~ (police interrogation)
put Baghdad in a vise
troops attacking from the north and south would ~

pressure / situation: tools & technology

oppression: pressure

vision (noun)

vision of an editor
the power of a writer and the ~

vision of the founder
staying true to the ~ (J.C. Penney)

vision of the future
his dark, sadistic and medieval ~ (al-Zarqawi)

vision of the world and the universe
the Maya, Toltec and Iztec ~ (Chichen Itza)

vision for space travel
his most lasting legacy is his ~ (Von Braun)

America's vision
~ of personal reinvention and hope (vs. Europe)

Maya, Toltec and Iztec vision
the ~ of the world and the universe (Chichen Itza)

television
village elders say ~ is a particularly disturbing force

medieval vision
his dark, sadistic and ~ of the future (al-Zarqawi)

dream, fantasy, or vision
the only way to keep a ~ intact or rosy is never…

voices and visions
she claims ~ led her to drown her five children

pursues his vision
Wangurri clan Elder Timothy Buthimang ~
takes vision
~ to involve the common good (versus profit)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

visionary (adjective)

visionary plan
he had a ~ to digitalize the library's collection

perception, perspective & point of view: eye

vitriol (noun)

anti-American vitriol
Iran's leaders escalated their ~

accusation & criticism: materials & substances

feeling, emotion & effect: materials & substances

speech: materials & substances

voice (speak with a single voice)
speak with a single voice on this issue
we must ~

unanimity & consensus: speech

voice (voice of reason)

listen to the voice of reason
I was in no reason to ~

sound like the voice of reason
he is beginning to ~

welcomed as a voice of reason
he was ~

message: speech

voice (representation)

voice
the poor and the powerless don't have a ~
they want to make sure their ~'s are heard

voice of millennials
he positioned himself as the ~ (candidate)

no voice
populations that have ~ (MSF)

Voice of the Mountains
~ Asheville Citizen-Times

voice of the people
the ~ will be heard

voice for the needy
colleagues praised him as a ~ (a politician)

have a voice
I sympathize with the poor don't have a ~

♦ “Hip-hop is a voice for people who don't have another voice.”

representation: speech
voice (message)
anti-immigration voice
he's the leading ~ in town (Arkansas town)

Himalayan voices
here the ~ called me (Tomaz Humar in Slovenia)

additional voice
there's room and a need for an ~ (new newspaper)

inner voice
just follow your ~

voices are heard
they want to make sure their ~

raise my voice
I started thinking and I had to ~ (about AIDS)

make our voices heard
if we make a stand, if we ~ (athletes)

make their voices heard
protestors are using the delay to ~

message: speech

void (noun)
fill the void
nobody will be able to ~ (death of politician)

presence & absence: air / atmosphere
volatile
volatile atmosphere
it's a ~ (national outrage over child abuse by clergy)
volatile behavior
despite his ~ on the court (basketball)
volatile border
fighting along the ~ (Kashmir)
volatile crises
he was sent in to defuse ~ (FBI hostage negotiator)
volatile relationship
they had a ~
volatile temper
she has a ~
volatile Persian Gulf
ease China's reliance on a ~ for its energy needs
volatile West Africa
its reputation as an oasis of peace in ~ (Ivory Coast)
volatile Horn of Africa
terrorists in the ~… (Somalia, Eritrea)
prices will be volatile
~ for the foreseeable future
extremely volatile
their marriage was ~

politically volatile
the tiny nation is among the most ~ in the Gulf
tense and volatile
Basra remained ~ (Operation Iraqi Freedom)

initiation: explosion / fire

volcanic
volcanic temper
his ~ led to his firing (a coach)

feeling, emotion & effect: volcano

volcano (pressure)
volcano
it’s a ~ and its now starting to erupt (a scandal)
volcano of revenge
a ~ has built up inside him (Shiite in Baghdad)

pressure: volcano

volley (noun)
volley of questions
when she does speak, it is often in a ~

speech: weapon

vote (vote with one's feet, etc.)
voting with their feet
the population is ~ (refugees leave camps)
the result sees Texas parents ~ (home schooling)

vote with their wallets
people ~ (support of bistros in France)

allegiance, support & betrayal: walking, running & jumping / verb

vote (noun)
vote of confidence
he has my ~

allegiance, support & betrayal: government

vow (verb)
vowed to find
he ~ a solution to the problem

commitment & determination: religion

vulture (noun)
vultures of the abyss
hagfish are the ~, feeding on carcasses of dead fish

Vulture Club
he's a member of the "~" (journalists who follow conflict)

vultures are (already) circling
the ~ on the web (gossip about Chancellor’s health)

♦ What do humans and vultures have in common? Answer: Both eat only dead flesh.

behavior: animal / bird / vulture

W

wade (wade in / into)

waded into (treacherous political) waters
he has ~ (taking sides in controversy)

Involvement: water / verb

wagon (circle the wagons)
circle the wagons
they ~ in a time of crisis (universities, church)
"circle-the-wagons mentality" backfired
the ~
wagon were circled
the ~ (opposition to desegregation in Mississippi)

protection & lack of protection: history / Native Americans / verb

conflict: history / Native Americans / verb

wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something)
hitched his wagon to Donald Trump
he ~ and saw his life unravel

allegiance, support & betrayal: history / horse / verb

waiting game

waiting game
for us, it’s a ~ (police investigation of serial killings)
played a waiting game with the weather
they ~ (military operation)

strategy: sports & games

action, inaction & delay: sports & games

wake (resemblance)

wakes
while man sleeps, the jungle ~ (animal activity)

resemblance: sleep / verb
activity: sleep / verb

wake up (verb)

wake up
people are starting to ~ (an AIDS issue)

woke up
an Arab nation ~, and said enough (Tunisia / 2011)

woken up
I was one of the sleeping majority, but now I have ~

wake up to the dangers

West African states have begun to ~ of the drug trade
people have woken up
the Baluch ~ (Brahmandagh, a rebel leader)

consciousness & awareness: sleep / verb

wake (in the wake)
in the wake of the (merger) announcement
in the wake of disaster
how strong we can be ~ (terrorism)
in the wake of the (Arab oil) embargo
in the wake of (terrorist) hijackings
new security measures ~
in the wake of the invasion
the potential for chaos ~ (Iraq)
in the wake of (another) (accounting) scandal
~ hitting a US giant
in the wake of a (sleet) storm
in Mid-December, ~
in the wake of Sept. 11
flag-waving ~

♦ NO WAKE ZONE (A sign directed at boaters in a channel.)

sequence: boat / water

wake (wake-up call)

wake-up call
this death is a ~
the oil spill has been a ~

wake-up call to the Saudis
the bombings are a ~ (terrorists)

consciousness & awareness / warning: sleep

walk (walk the walk)
walked the walk
you knew he ~ (a biker outlaw)

commitment & determination: walking, running & jumping / verb

walk (walk somebody through something)

walk me through why
~ somebody would be afraid to participate (census)

walk us through what
can you ~ police are doing right now (breaking news)

walk us through (exactly) what
~ happened here (tell us what happened)

walk us through the data
so ~, what did you find (talk radio)
walk us through that moment
can you ~ that you found out... (TV interview)
walk us through the procedure
could you ~ (explain)
walk us through the results
and here to ~ is our lead political editor (new poll)

**walk (walk somebody back)**

walk us back a bit
could you ~ (speak about what happened before)

**past & present: direction / journeys & trips / movement / verb / walking, running & jumping**

**walk (crawl, walk, run)**
crawl, walk, run (m)
instruction should follow a ~ sequence (military)

**sequence: walking, running & jumping**

**walk (walk away from something)**

walk away
mining companies ~ without paying for cleanups (gold)
walked away
he spoke to the BBC about why he ~ (quit Royal Ballet)
walked away from a (potential) deal
the president ~ (negotiations)
walk away from it
why didn’t you just ~ (a scam)
walk away from the European Union
should the United Kingdom ~

**coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**avoidance & separation: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**allegiance, support & betrayal: verb / walking, running & jumping**

**walk back (noun)**

walk back
let’s talk about the ~ (reversal)

**reversal: walking, running & jumping**

**walk back (verb)**

walk back his (previous) comments
he tried to ~ (a politician)
walked back his earlier statement
the witness ~
walked back from earlier pledges
he has ~ to overturn reforms
walked the advisor’s assertion back
his campaign manager ~

**reversal: walking, running & jumping / verb**

**walkover (noun)**

walkover
the campaign won’t be a ~
the war won’t be a ~

difficulty, easiness & effort: walking, running & jumping

**wall (obstacle)**

wall of (Republican) opposition
President Obama ran into a stone ~

wall of privacy
biographers ran up against a ~

wall of silence
breaking down the famous "blue ~" (NYC police)

brick wall
law enforcement has run into a ~
this new bill is expected to hit a ~ in the Senate (politics)

paywall
advocates of open access bemoan the ~ (academic articles)

stone wall
President Obama ran into a ~ of opposition

bureaucratic wall
it felt like I had hit a ~

cultural walls
the ~ that keep the rest of the world out (reservation)
broke the wall
she ~ of silence on the issue (protection rackets)
run up against a wall
biographers ~ of privacy

run into a (stone) wall
President Obama ~ of Republican opposition

set up (high) walls
kings ~ of etiquette to keep the world out

obstacles & impedance: wall
division & connection: wall

**wall (wall of flames, etc.)**

wall of flames
fleeing a ~ (wildfire firefighters)

wall of water
the dam failure sent a ~ downstream
the ~ destroyed everything in its path (tsunami)

resemblance: wall

**wall (constraint)**

walls come down
this is where the ~ (Las Vegas partying)

constraint & lack of constraint: wall
wall (ricochet off the wall)
ricocheting off the wall
she's going to be ~ (surprised / upset / unhappy)

behavior: movement / verb

wall (the walls have ears)

wall
the ~s have ears

surveillance: wall

wall (walls close in)
walls may be closing in on him
the ~ (manhunt)

pressure: wall / verb

wall (hit a wall)
hitting a wall
some heretics argue that deep learning is ~ (AI)

progress & lack of progress: wall / verb

wallet

implications on your wallets
what is the ~
worried about their wallets
they're more ~ than moral issues

open their wallets
they have inspired millions to ~ (aid to Haiti)

watch their wallets
retirees need to ~ (US)

money: purses & wallets

wallow (verb)
wallows in nostalgia
the show ~
wallow in self-pity
my job means that I can’t ~

"Sambur (Sambar) and other game used this pool as a drinking place and wallow." (Man-Eaters of Kumaon by Jim Corbett.)

"He found a mud hole, let out a tremendous cry, and rolled and wallowed." (An elk during rut.)

involvement: animal / verb
behavior: animal / verb

Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)

Wall Street of the South
Charlotte, North Carolina, the ~ (Bank of America)

Wall Street of fish
Tokyo's Tsukiji fish market is the ~ (sets prices, etc.)

money: epithet / place
epithet: money

Walter Mitty
Walter Mittys with Everest dreams
~ need to keep in mind... (climbing)

fantasy & reality: allusion / person

waltz (last waltz)

last waltz
and so, there was a ~ (dinner at bankrupt restaurant)

starting, going, continuing & ending: music

waltz (attain)
waltzed to re-election
he should have ~ but is now in a fight (politics)

difficulty, easiness & effort: music / verb
attainment: movement / verb

waltz in (verb)
waltz (right) in
we shouldn’t let them just ~ (terrorists return to England)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: music / verb

wane (on the wane)
on the wane
his once promising ability is ~ (athlete)
summer is ~ and autumn on the way
tolerance is ~ and extremism is thriving
support for the climate bill is ~
empathy is ~
America's power and influence is ~

decline: astronomy / moon
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / moon

wane (verb)
wanes a bit
my new-found euphoria ~ (for new hobby)
career waned
his ~ after his “Airwolf” heyday (actor)

epidemic is (now) waning
the cholera ~, having run its natural, devastating course

influence (in Iraq) is waning
the American’s ~
popularity has waned
since then, however, its ~... (barbiturate abuse)

sense of urgency wanes
people forget and the ~... (wildfires)

starts to wane
the fight's urgency ~.(pit bulls)
tendency (for the effect) to wane
there is a ~ after... (a medication)
waxed and waned  
their grip on the area ~ (Chinese in Xinjiang)

**decline:** astronomy / moon / verb
**increase & decrease:** astronomy / moon / verb
**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence:** astronomy / moon / verb
**development:** astronomy / moon / verb

**war (at war)**

at war with her (nagging) fears  
her hopes were ~ (health of child)

**conflict:** military

**war (flame war)**

flame war  
spasm, -s, dumb jokes…

burst into flame wars  
Web sites ~

sparked a flame war  
he ~ by writing that… (Internet)

**computer: fire / military**

**war (conflict)**

war  
this is ~ (attempts to repeal the death tax)

war to make the Internet safe  
the ~ was lost long ago

war of attrition  
he turns football into a ~

war of (racially charged) slurs  
they fought a ~ (high schoolers)

war of words  
an interesting ~ develops between… (politics)  
the arrests provoked a ~ between the two countries

war of insults and namecalling  
a virtual ~ between Turks and Greeks on YouTube

war on Islam  
what he called the West's ~

war on their bosses  
Corps officials quietly declared ~, skipping meetings

war on cancer  
Richard Nixon began America's ~

War on Drugs  
the ~

war on meth  
in 2003 Thailand launched an all-out ~ (Yaba)

war on piracy  
~ bears fruit (pirated music, software in Dubai)

War on Poverty  
the 1960s produced the ~

war on poverty  
finding a drug for black hypertension is cheaper than a ~

war on smallpox  
Dr. Donald A. Henderson led the successful ~

war with the European Union  
the banana ~ over imports

war against doctors  
the D.E.A.'s ~ (drugs-for-sex cases)

war against the environment  
the ~ is also a war against traditional people

war against traditional people  
the war against the environment is also a ~

war against cybercafes  
Beijing declares ~

war (with the European Union) over imports  
the banana ~

war over (union) representation  
sparked a labor ~

war between the two  
it's not a ~ (sales and marketing)

war between consumers and record labels  
the file-sharing ~ (burning)

war between theorists and engineers  
the ~ (over artificial intelligence)

wars among (Ecstasy) dealers  
turf ~

war chant  
fans and players intoned their ~ (football)

war-simulation (m)  
a ~ game (console game)

war stories  
as he recounts his ~ (about the film industry)

war-gaming  
civilian ~ spread…

"banana war"  
the ~ with the European Union over imports

banana war  
the ~ has been the world's longest running trade dispute

culture war  
"~s" that have wracked universities

drug war  
Colombia's ~  
the ~ became a bipartisan effort

gang war  
this was the beginning of a full-blown ~ (LA)
labor war
  a ~ over union representation

price war
  fierce ~s have reduced profits
  a ~ broke out (illegal drugs)

race war
  preparing for a ~

taxi war
  the ~s are a national problem in South Africa (rival cartels)

trade war
  sanctions could set off a ~

one-man war
  he was waged a ~ against the bill (government)

all-out war
  it had become an ~ (Egypt and US issue)

reading wars
  the so-called ~—the battle over the best method

file-sharing war
  the ~ between consumers and record labels (burning)

bidding war
  a ~ had begun for exclusive photo rights

full-blown (gang) war
  this was the beginning of a ~ (LA)

diplomatic war
  he has won the ~

"virtual war"
  a ~ of insults and namecalling between Turks and Greeks

public opinion war
  they would lose the ~ (educational vouchers)

12-round war
  a ~ that was one of the year's best fights (boxing)

in the midst of a (culture) war
  America is ~

language of war
  its language is the ~ (US football)

war broke out
  a price ~ (illegal drugs)

war continues and escalates
  the ~ (Internet popup ads)

declared war
  Corps officials quietly ~ on their bosses

declares war
  Beijing ~ against cybercafes

launched an (all-out) war
  in 2003 Thailand ~ on meth (Yaba)

lose the (public opinion) war
  they would ~ (educational vouchers)

set off a (trade) war
  by imposing sanctions, the administration could ~

sparked a (flame) war
  he ~ by writing that… (Internet)

wage war
  communities in this state ~ on their youth

**conflict: military**

**war chest**

war chest
  his ~ is below the poverty line (a politician)

war chest of $200,000
  armed with a ~ that they'd raised…

campaign war chest
  he has a much larger ~

**money: military**

**warehouse (neglect)**

Dickensian warehouses
  it’s orphanages became famous as ~ (Romania)

**environment: mental health / warehouse**

**warehouse (amount)**

viral warehouses
  monkeys are ~

**amount: infrastructure / warehouse**

**warehousing (data)**

data warehousing
  ~ and consumer information
data-warehousing (m)
  he develops ~ software

**computer: infrastructure / warehouse**

**warfare (noun)**

warfare against Democrats
  there is likely to be a session of trench ~ (politics)
trench warfare
  this has become political ~ (politics)

**conflict: military**

**warm (verb)**

warmed up to California
  in time, he ~

**feeling, emotion & effect: temperature / verb**

acceptance & rejection: temperature / verb

warm (adjective)

warm
  the relationship between them has never been ~ (politics)
warm heart
  he praised her for her ~ can concern for others
warm reception
  we got a ~ everywhere we went
warm welcome
  they gave us a ~

warm 28-year-old
  she is a ~ with big brown eyes

warm and receptive
  the audience was ~ (for a folksinger)

warm and sympathetic
  voters perceive her as ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
warmed-up
  getting warmed-up
   I'm just ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: temperature / engine
warmhearted (adjective)
  warmhearted person
   she is a ~

character & personality / heart: temperature
warmly
  greeted us warmly
   he ~
  received us warmly
   she ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
warmth
  support, encouragement, and warmth
   she provides ~

feeling, emotion & effect: temperature
warn (a sign can warn, etc.)
  sign warns
   a road ~, “Watch for children and dogs”
  signs warn
   ~ visitors to stay clear of the falls
  sign warned
   a ~, “Danger Do Not Enter Steep Drops” (cliffs)

fictional communication: speech / verb
war of nerves
  war of nerves
   how soldiers cope with the ~ (waiting for combat)

conflict: skin, muscle, nerves & bone

warpath (on the warpath)
on the warpath with Wall Street
  his finer days were as attorney general ~
back on the warpath
  nativists are ~
gone on the warpath
  they have ~

conflict: history / Native Americans
warrior (noun)
Warrior Girls
   “~” is about the injury epidemic of young female athletes
heart of a (true) warrior
   battered and bloodied, but showing the ~ (boxing)

conflict: history / person / violence
war zone
urban war zone
   an ~ (crime)
environment: military
washboard
  washboard road
   driving down a ~

shape: clothing & accessories
washed-up (adjective)
washed up
   at age 50, I found myself ~

decline: sea / water / wave
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: sea / water / wave
wash in (verb)
washed into Germany
   millions of migrants have ~
movement: verb / water / wave
wash up (verb)
washed (back) up
   when was the next time the picture ~ in your life
  washed up
   his dishonesty had finally ~ at his brother’s feet
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sea / verb / water / wave
waste (lay waste)
lay waste to the myths
   it is time to ~ of Soviet propaganda (Katyn)
destruction: military / ruins / verb
watch (on one’s watch)
on my watch
not ~
it will not happen ~ (constitutional sheriff)
on his watch
Bush was haunted by a replay of 9/11 ~
happened on your watch
these problems ~ (investigation)
responsible: military

watchdog (noun)
watchdog
every industry needs a ~
watchdog organization
a national ~
public’s watchdog
the media is supposed to be the ~
drug industry watchdog
his self-appointed role as the ~
surveillance / warning: animal / dog
protection & lack of protection: animal / dog

water (deep water)
found himself in deep water
in ~ (a boxer during match)
Involvement / situation: water

water (blow something out of the water)
blows your theory out of the water
this ~
blew Phelps out of the water
Lochte ~ (Olympics)
blown out of the water
that theory was ~ (criminal trial)

destruction: boat / sea / verb
water (keep one's head above water)
keep our heads above water
we are struggling to ~ (financial woes)

survival, persistence & endurance: water / verb
water (tread water)
treading water
the middle class is still ~, and trying not to drown

survival, persistence & endurance: water / verb
water (hold water)
hold water
the theory doesn’t ~
the idea you can add adversity to the SAT doesn’t really ~

flaws & lack of flaws: water / verb
waterboarding (noun)
fiscal waterboarding
the country is being subjected to a ~ (austerity)
affliction / coercion & motivation / oppression: violence
water cooler
digital water cooler
the Website is a sort of ~ for the tech industry
gossip: place
water down (verb)
water down the program
the government wants to ~

attenuation: verb / water
strength & weakness: verb / water
watered down
get watered down
most reform bills ~ (US)

attenuation: water
strength & weakness: water
Waterloo
Waterloo for Mr. Brown
the debates could be a ~ (politics)
Obama’s Waterloo
the Republicans hope to turn health care into ~

mayor’s Waterloo
failure to clear snow can be a ~ (Chicago, etc.)

failure, accident & impairment: allusion / history / military
success & failure: allusion / history / military
resistance, opposition & defeat: allusion / history / military
epithet: history / military
waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
uncertain waters
Egypt has sailed into freer but more ~
uncharted water
the NCAA is wading into ~

uncharted waters
we’re in ~ here, or very little charted waters (legal issue)
uncharted (legal) waters
the charges have led the country into ~ (soldiers)

area: journeys & trips / map / sea
certainty & uncertainty: journeys & trips / map / sea
waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
dangerous waters
you are in ~, Mr. Starbuck (Moby Dick)
treacherous (political) waters
he has waded into ~

danger: boat / sea / water

waters (muddy the waters)
muddy the waters about salt and health
the Salt Institute has done nothing but ~
muddy the (legal) waters
the case did nothing but ~

perception, perspective & point of view: light & dark / verb / water
comprehension & incomprehension: light & dark / verb / water
certainty & uncertainty: light & dark / water

waters (test the waters)
testing the waters
they are ~

experimentation: verb / water

watershed (noun)
watershed
the death of Tom Simpson was a ~ (athletes doping)
watershed event
it was a ~ for the company
watershed moment
the arrival of the drones will be a ~ (war)
the affair was a ~ for British Muslims (Rushdie book)
watershed in (American) politics
the 1968 presidential election was a ~
watershed in that (fractious) relationship
this day could be a ~ between fans (Liverpool / Man U)
historic watershed
the violence was a ~ (Sri Lanka / 1983)

importance & significance / source: river

watertight (adjective)
legally watertight
they will ensure their position is ~

flaws & lack of flaws: water

wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
Wave Rock
natural wonders like ~ in western Australia

proper name: sea / water / wave

wave (shape)
waves of (wind-hardened) snow
~ called “sastrugi” (Antarctic)

stony wave
Half Dome looms over Yosemite Valley like a ~

shape: sea / water / wave

wave (wave of the future, etc.)
wave of the future
online banking is the ~
next big wave
the ~ was cloud computing

catch the wave
some companies were too big to ~

development: sea / water / wave

wave (effect)
waves are washing
the ~ over other parts of the region (peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea)

feeling, emotion & effect: sea / water / wave

wave (blast wave, etc.)
blast radius
the target was Ukraine, but its ~ was the entire world (NotPetya worm)

effect: explosion

wave (in a wave)
in a wave of dissention
the team dissolved ~, losing all 3 matches (soccer)
in a wave of kidnappings
dozens of foreigners have been abducted ~ (Iraq)
in the (first) wave of infections
hospital workers infected ~ (SARS)
in a (weeklong) wave of violence
more than 100 were killed ~
in the first wave
hospital workers infected ~ of infections (SARS)
in a great wave
engulfed ~ of hate and anger (mob)
in a weeklong wave
more than 100 were killed ~ of violence
dissolved in a wave
the team ~ of dissension, losing all 3 matches (soccer)

abducted in a wave
dozens of foreigners have been ~ of kidnappings (Iraq)

engulfed in a (great) wave
~ of hate and anger (mob)

infected in the (first) wave
hospital workers ~ of infections (SARS)

amount & effect: sea / water / wave
**wave (amount and effect)**

wave
this ~ is going to build and grow (flexible workplace)

wave of (neo-Nazi) activity
we must combat a ~

wave of (cigarette) advertising
the new ~

wave of (new) applications
a ~ for accommodations (SAT disability)

wave of arrests
this summer, there was a further ~ in Saudi Arabia

wave of (Palestinian) attacks
a ~ killed five Israelis

wave of (HIV-positive) babies
a ~ still to be born

wave of (commercial space) cameras
the new ~

wave of criticism
the slow response has brought a ~

wave of emigration
the ~ that followed (the fall of Soviet Union)

wave of emotions
the resignations set off a ~ from sadness to relief

wave of euphoria
the South Korean ~ (World Cup)

wave of explosions
a ~ marred Algeria's independence celebration

wave of fury
the nominee list set off a ~

waves of grief
the wreck is sending ~ across the mountains

waves of immigrants
the cold war's end has brought ~
~ who have crossed the sea to live in France

wave of immigration
the latest ~ threatens to change…
a ~ that has changed schools and neighborhoods
he came here as part of a ~ from Uzbekistan (to Israel)

waves of immigration
the ~ to the US over the past 20 years

wave of (national) indignation
a ~

wave of pride
his success has set off a ~ (Japanese ballplayer)

wave of self-criticism
a ~ swept the press

wave of (reported) sightings
a ~ in 1993 (UFOs)

wave of sympathy
setting in motion a fast-rolling ~ (psychogenic illness)

wave of (national) unity
the ~ following 9/11

wave of unrest
the ~ has toppled two presidents (Middle East)

wave of (democratic) uprisings
a ~ is transforming the Islamic world

wave of (sectarian) vengeance
a ~ is sweeping the capital (Baghdad)

waves of arrivals and departures
orchestrated ~ (busy airport)

wave of (criminal) charges
the ~ and civil lawsuits (church sex abuse)

wave of (corporate) divestitures
the next ~ and spin-offs

wave of car bombs
a ~ against westerners (Saudi Arabia)

wave of kidnappings
victims of a ~ (Lebanon)

waves of killing and ethnic cleansing
subjected to ~ (Hutu-Tutsi)

Republican wave
a ~ swamped them (elections)

attack wave
the main ~

crime wave
unassimilated immigrants have set off ~s in Europe

enemy wave
slowed the on-coming ~ with machine gun fire

heat wave
a killer ~ claimed an estimated 10,000 lives (France)

immigration wave
the US is in an ~ that rivals the start of 20th century

murder wave
a ~ engulfed the U.S. around 1960

technology wave
you're riding on a ~ that's going to crash

on-coming (enemy) wave
slowed the ~ with machine gun fire

fast-rolling wave
setting in motion a ~ of sympathy (psychogenic illness)

orchestrated wave
~s of arrivals and departures (airport)
first wave
  he was part of the ~ of immigrants from Laos (Hmong)

further wave
  this summer, there was a ~ of arrests in Saudi Arabia

great wave
  engulfed in a ~ of hate and anger (mob)

human wave (m)
  the determined enemy launched ~ assaults (war)

latest wave
  the ~ of immigration threatens to change… (France)

main (attack) wave
  the ~ (military)

new wave
  the ~ of commercial space cameras
  the ~ of cigarette advertising

New Wave
  the French ~, especially Truffaut and Goddard

next wave
  the ~ will be "semantic web" applications

previous waves
  ~ of US immigrants

successive wave
  each ~ of (U.S.) strikes (military)

consequences of a wave
  one of the many ~ of immigration (schools)

victims of a wave
  ~ of kidnappings (Lebanon)

wave has spread
  the revolution ~ from Egypt to Libya

wave (of self-criticism) swept
  a ~ the press

wave (of sectarian vengeance) is sweeping
  a ~ the capital (Baghdad)

wave (of immigration) threatens
  the latest ~ to change…

brought a wave
  the slow response has ~ of criticism

combat a wave
  we must ~ of neo-Nazi activity

wave has crested
  (and the waters receded)
  the ~ to reveal a changed landscape (refugee tsunami)

rode that wave
  two years later she ~ of attention to a seat in the US Senate

sending waves
  the wreck is ~ of grief across the mountains

set off a wave
  the resignations ~ of emotions from sadness to relief

the nominee list ~ of fury
  his success has ~ of pride (Japanese ballplayer in US)

subjected to waves
  ~ of killing and ethnic cleansing (Hutu-Tutsi)

  ♦ Rogue waves, also known as freak or monster waves, have sunk ships and snatched people from coastlines.
  ♦ Surfers have ridden waves of 80 feet or more along the Cortes Bank.
  ♦ "If you want to ride the ultimate wave, you have to be willing to pay the ultimate price." (Mark Foo.)
  ♦ A 60-foot wave is like a cement truck falling on you. (Surfing.)
  ♦ When the wave height reaches three quarters of the water depth, the wave breaks.

amount & effect: sea / water / wave

movement: sea / water / wave

waver (verb)

waveri ng over what to do
  the city has been ~

commitment & determination: equilibrium & stability / movement / verb

wavelength (on the same wavelength)

on the same wavelength as his teammates
  he has not been ~ (a soccer striker)

unanimity & consensus: tools & technology

wax (wax and wane)

wax and wane
  separation anxiety tends to ~ (toddlers)

waxed and waned
  anti-American protests have ~ in South Korea

waxes and wanes
  her apparent awareness ~ (GHB rape on video)

  ♦ It's always a treat to see a very young moon, such as one that is 24 hours old or less. It takes clear skies and good eyesight or binoculars.

increase & decrease: astronomy / moon / verb

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / moon / verb

development: astronomy / moon / verb

way (along the way)

along the way
  so many friends we've lost ~
  ~, the Dali Lama prevented… (history)

course: journeys & trips

way (in harm's way)

in harm's way
  people and homes are ~ (wildfire)

go in harm's way
  I intend to ~ (combat)

puts volunteers in harm's way
  the Peace Corp commonly ~
danger / situation: route

way (know one's way around)
knows his way around the European Union
he ~ (a British politician)

knowledge & intelligence: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips
direction: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips

way (out of harm's way)
out of harm's way
I directed myself toward river right, ~ (kayaking)
dragged him out of harm's way
he ~ (combat)
danger: route

way (out of the way / remote)
geographically out of the way
Siberia may be ~, but…

isolation & remoteness: journeys & trips

way (in the way)
unwanted, in the way, and useless
some old people feel ~
get in the way
don't let anger or prejudice ~ of peace
gets in the way
all this stuff ~ of instruction (adolescent problems)
gets in his own way
the president constantly ~ on these things (by his tweets)
stand in your way
let nothing ~ (dreams)
stands in her way
she will hurt anyone who ~
stood in her way
she didn't care who ~
stand in the way
just a few contract details ~ (boxing)
if you want to quit, I won't ~
stand in their way
and nothing is going to ~

obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips

way (get out of the way)
get out of my way
people were smart enough to ~ and let me handle it

♦ Lead, follow, or get the hell out of the way!

obstacles & impedance: walking, running & jumping / verb

way (out of the way / obstacles)
out of the way
Americans praise Indian enemies once they are ~
got their jitters out of the way
our guys finally ~ (sports)
obstacles & impedance: journeys & trips

way (go out of one's way)
go out of their way
moray eels do not ~ to attack humans
go out of the way to explain
they don't ~
went out of his way to meet
the President ~ with opposition leaders
gone out of his way to woo
he has ~ friends in the other party
Gates has ~ to woo Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
difficulty, easiness & effort: journeys & trips / verb

way (way out / escape)
way out
there is simply no other ~ (a Palestinian State)
way out of the abyss
he worked his ~ of crime and hopelessness
way out of the (poor) neighborhood
the Army was a ~
way out of a (dire) situation
she sought a ~
way out of (criminal) trouble
you can often buy your ~ (police corruption)
only way out
I took the ~ (didn't graduate from high school)

easy way out

no way out
there was ~ (hopelessness)

buy your way out
you can often ~ of trouble (corruption)

dig his way out
he found a way to ~ of his problems
find some way out
we must try to ~ of it (world economies)

lie her way out
she tried to ~ of it, but she got caught

look for a way out
teen suspects often ~ (false confessions)
looked for a way out
and so he ~ (of a bad situation)
sought a way out
she ~ of a dire situation
take the (easy) way out
teens will ~ (cheating)
worked his way out
he ~ of the abyss of crime and hopelessness
saw suicide as her (only) way out
she ~ ♦

"Oh, wait, it's upside-down." (A member of a group of people navigating a corn maze, referring to their map of the maze.)

pursuit, capture & escape: container
situation: container
way (get one's way)
gets its way
as an arm of the Kremlin, Gazprom usually ~
gets her way
she schemes and plans and manipulates to ~
wants, needs, hopes & goals: verb
way (on the way)
on the way to (cold war) victory
Afghanistan was the last battle ~
on your way there
you're ~ (to becoming successful and famous)
help is on the way
relief is on the way
starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips
way (on the way out)
on its way out
the fastest way down is ~ (firehouse poles)
gun control is ~ (US attempts to regulate guns)
on their way out
the network anchor and evening news are ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips
way (give way to something)
giving way to diesel
by the nineteen-seventies, steam was ~ (India / trains)
gives way to knowledge
what happens when innocence ~
gives way to the new
the old order ~
give way to the lit stage
the fading daylight began to ~ (concert)
gave way to a (gentler) slope
the steep shale ~ of snow (South Col)
give way to new industries
dominant industries of today will ~ tomorrow
gave way to palaces and villas
during the Renaissance, castles ~ (Italy)
gives way to clear-cutting
selective logging often ~ (Amazon)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips / verb
way (go the way of something)
going the way of the corset
the push-up bra may be finally ~ (decline of Victoria’s Secret)
going the way of the phone booth
street-corner mailboxes are ~ (email)
going the way of the rotary dial
common courtesy is ~
go the way of the rotary-dialed phone
residential white-page phone books may ~
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips / verb
way (go a long way)
go a long way
American dollars ~ in Canada
goes a long way
a little humiliation ~ (resistance)
go a long way towards improving
this will ~ things
extent & scope: distance
cost & benefit: distance
way (lose one's way)
lost our way
we've ~
we have all ~ from time to time
lost its way
Manchester United has ~ (2018-19)
direction: journeys & trips / verb
failure, accident & impedance: journeys & trips / verb
way (lead the way)
leading the way
the Democrats are ~ on this (vote of disapproval)
direction: journeys & trips / verb
driving force: journeys & trips / verb
way (find one's way)
find my way
it was easy to ~ (a difficult job)
find our way
but we'll ~ (out of a problem)
find his own way
I'm not trying to force the boy, I know he will ~
direction: journeys & trips / verb
way (pave the way)
pave the way for the (surfing) boom
Hoffman helped ~
pave the way for (new) drugs
the landmark discovery could ~ to beat viruses
paves the way for gays
the bill ~ to serve openly in the military
paved the way for an recovery
the government program ~ (economy)
paved the way for (better) relations
the treaty has ~ between the two countries
paved the way for the rise
repeal of the Fairness Doctrine ~ of Fox News
paved the way for an (economic) comeback
the government program ~

amelioration & renewal: journeys & trips / verb
way (a long way)
long way to climb
the people of Africa have a ~
long way to go
we've got a ~, but we've had some success
there is still a ~ (a legal process)
long way towards meeting
we've come a ~ that goal
long way from throwing
we're a ~ in the towel
come a long way
we've ~ towards meeting that goal
the city has ~ (Warsaw / improvement)
go a long way
she will ~ (a young singer)
gone a long way
we have ~

have a long way
the people of Africa ~ to climb

progress & lack of progress: journeys & trips
way (a long way off)
a long way off
the 2024 election is ~

future / time: distance

way (direction)
gone the other way
events could have ~
direction: journeys & trips
way (the wrong way)
going the wrong way
we're ~
direction: journeys & trips
way (every step of the way)
every step of the way
eyou've helped us ~
her mother had approved the relationship ~

starting, going, continuing & ending: journeys & trips
way (all the way)
all the way
a suit won't get them ~ they need to go to stop the president

success & failure / attainment: journeys & trips
way (route)
way to (anyone's) heart
the quickest ~ is with an MCL gift card
quickest way
the ~ to anyone's heart is with an MCL gift card
route: journeys & trips
wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.)
fallen by the wayside
the US has ~ (competitive weightlifting)

success & failure: journeys & trips
survival, persistence & endurance: journeys & trips
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: journeys & trips

weak (fragile)
fragile and weak
the caretaker government is ~

strength & weakness: materials & substances
flaws & lack of flaws: materials & substances

weak-minded (adjective)
weak-minded man
he was a ~

mind: materials & substances

wealth (amount)
wealth of (forensic) evidence
police have a ~
wealth of experience
he's bringing a ~ into the classroom

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 688 of 982
wealth of (allosaurus) fossils
the area is known for its ~ (Jurassic Monument in Utah)

wealth of information
the flight data recorder provided a ~ (crash)

wealth of (company) information
the ~ held by the government

wealth of materials
he uncovered a ~ (sunken boat)

wealth of (educational) options
giving parents a ~

wealth of talent
the team has a ~

wealth of titles
producing a ~ (publishing houses)

wealth of information, perspective, opportunities
we provide you with a ~ (ad for Fidelity Wealth)

amount: money
worth & lack of worth: money

wean (verb)
wean itself off coal
the US cannot ~ quickly
wean countries off coal
the European Commission seeks to ~
wean yourself off cigarettes
it's a bad idea to ~ with smokeless tobacco
wean himself off heroin
he was able to ~ with the help of his family
wean the nation off fossil fuels
we must ~
wean ourselves off of fossil fuels
we must ~ (energy independence)
wean itself from ad revenues
the magazine wants to ~ (vs. subscriptions, online fees)
wean the US from (messy and expensive) heating oil
while federal officials try to ~, Main remains addicted
wean the planet from the burning
we must ~ of fossil fuels

dependency: baby / verb

weapon (help)
weapons of the weak
~ include foot-dragging and feigned ignorance
weapon in solving
seamless teamwork can be a potent ~disease outbreaks
weapon against prejudice
black and gay comedians have wielded jokes as a ~

political weapon
Sadat gained diplomatic leverage using oil as a ~ (1973)

potent weapon
teamwork can be a ~ in solving disease outbreaks

help & assistance: weapon / military

weapon (secret weapon)

secret weapon of diplomacy
cultural exchanges are the ~
secret weapon for Nokia
better developer tools could be a ~
secret weapon in fighting
women are his ~ lawlessness
campaign's secret weapon
she has been the ~ (politician's wife)
group's secret weapon
technology has been the group's ~
virus's secret weapon
evolution is a ~

unleashed a secret weapon
supporters of reform have ~ (clerical support)

strength & weakness: weapon

weaponization (noun)
weaponization of social media
the ~ to influence elections and sow discord

creation & transformation: weapon

weaponize (verb)
weaponize children
the Democrats are happy to ~ (immigration)

weather (survive)
weather their (financial) crisis
the extra income allowed them to ~
weathered (all sorts of) storms
the Catholic Church has ~ across the centuries

survival, persistence & endurance: storm / verb
weather (environment)

weather
it’s as good as an example as any given the ~
environment: air / atmosphere / weather & climate

weave (creation)

weaves a tale of first contract
she ~ (author)
creation & transformation: cloth / verb

weave (move)

weaves in and out of (Indian) stereotypes
he ~ (Native American writer)
weave to his right
Tyson would take a short step and ~ (boxer)
trail weaved
the ~ downhill... (mountain biking)
movement: cloth / verb

weave (mixture)

weave of information
the Web's tangled ~ and misinformation (hoaxes)
tangled weave
the Web's ~ of information and misinformation
mixture: cloth

weave together (verb)

weave together what
I wanted to ~ life is like in the city (a book)
division & connection: cloth / verb

web (entanglement)

web of lawsuits
a thick ~
web of bribery
a ~, kickbacks, theft and conspiracy (war contracts)
thick web
a ~ of lawsuits
caught up in a web
~ of drug addiction and crime
involvement: animal / cloth / insect / spider

web (situation)

web of (drug) addiction and crime
caught up in a ~
situation: animal / container / insect / spider

web (spider web, etc.)

spider web of mountain biking trails

there is a ~ (in a state park)

shape: animal / insect / spider

web (spin a web)

spinning a web
they are accused of ~ of lies (murder)
creation & transformation: animal / insect / spider
subterfuge: animal / insect / spider

wedge (edge of the wedge)

thin edge of the wedge
politicians fear this is the ~ (sending a few troops)
driving force: tools & technology / wedge

wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)

drive a wedge between Muslims, Christians
a sinister attempt to ~
♦ A British negotiator being interviewed on NPR about sanctions against a country used the verb wedge-drive: "They will see this an opportunity to wedge-drive between the EU and the United States' allies in Europe."
division & connection: tools & technology / wedge / verb

wedged

wedged between the DRC and Republic of Congo Cabinda is ~ (enclave of Angola)
wedged between Switzerland and Austria Liechtenstein, ~
wedged between Ukraine and Romania Moldova is ~
wedged between the Gulf and the Gulf of Oman the UAE, ~
configuration: wedge

weed (in the weeds)

get in the weeds
it’s not my job to ~ (lack of knowledge of details)
perception, perspective & point of view: ground, terrain & land

weed out (verb)

weed out bad products
her agent helps ~ (a social-media influencer)
weed out the rebels
we will ~, but they are dug in
weed out the slackers
it's time to ~ who aren't pulling their weight
dismissal, removal & resignation: plant / farming & agriculture / verb

weigh (analyze)

weigh the merits against the risks
we ~ (the press and the publishing of secrets)

weighed whether
parents ~ to send their kids to school or… (sniper)

weigh the benefits
commanders must ~ of a rigid versus a flexible plan

weighing bids
the Coast Guard is ~ from three companies (for boats)

weigh the credibility
they must ~ or various threats (police)

weigh all the evidence
a decision-maker will ~

weigh the merits
we ~ of publishing against the risks (press / secrets)

weighing the offer
she is ~ of (employment)

weigh my options
I have to ~

weighed plans
Rumsfeld ~ to deploy up to 200,000 troops in the Gulf

weighed the price
weary but optimistic, he ~ of success (a rapper)

weighs response
India ~ after Kashmir attack

weigh the risks
your doctor can help you ~ and potential benefits

weigh the value
registrars must ~ of transfer credits

weigh the pros and cons
you must ~ (job offers)

weighed the pros and cons
~ of joining in the condemnation
weigh the successes and inadequacies
they ~ of the criminal-justice-dominated approach

**analysis, interpretation & explanation: scale / verb / weight**

**judgment: scale / verb / weight**

**weigh (oppress)**

weigh (down) on me
it's all starting to ~ (pressure)

weighs on you
it ~ like a ton of bricks (harassment / gay students)

weighed on my conscience
it ~ (terrorism)

weighing on her mind
that's still ~ as she sits… (no classes for adjunct)

weighed heavily
Beijing's opposition ~

weighs heavily
the bank's decline ~ on the city

let grief weigh him down
he didn't ~

**affliction: burden / verb / weight**

**oppression: burden / verb / weight**

**weighed down**

weighed down by debts and deficits
the nation is ~

**affliction: burden / weight**

**oppression: burden / weight**

**weigh in (verb)**

weighing in
now his mother is ~ (expressing her opinion)

weigh in on (major strategic) decisions
he will still ~ (executive takes sick leave)

weighing in on the issue
women are ~

weigh in (more heavily) on the issue
Congress has begun to ~ of…

weighed in on the (newspaper's) Web site
hundreds of readers ~

weighed in with concerns
groups ~ about the FBI's use of…

weighed in with a national study
JAMA ~ asserting that…

weighed in against the project
Sen. Barbara Boxer ~

♦ Boxers weigh in before a fight.

**involvement: boxing / sports & games / verb / weight**

**weight (under the weight)**

under the weight of so many laws
the people are ~
caved in under the weight
the regime finally ~ of its impossible contradictions

**oppression: burden / weight**

**affliction: burden / weight**

**weigh (pull one's weight)**

pulling their weight
we need to weed out the slackers who aren’t ~

**work & duty: burden / verb / weight**

**weight (put / throw one's weight behind something)**

throw its weight behind the (democracy) movement
the US did not ~ (diplomacy)
throwing their weight behind the opposition
they are ~ (an organization)

put all of their weight behind trying
the government ~ to prevent us from publishing

allegiance, support & betrayal: weight / verb
power: weight / verb

**weight (punch above one's weight, etc.)**

fight above our weight
we're going to have to ~ (politics)
punches above its weight
Hungary ~ in math, it has produced many mathematicians

power / substance & lack of substance: boxing / verb / weight
effect: boxing / verb / weight

**weight (oppression)**

feel the weight
they ~ every day (White House scandal)
oppression: burden / weight

**weight (substance)**

weight of the data
the ~ would suggest that… (inconsistent studies)

weight of the tragedy
as the full ~ fell over the neighborhood (AIDS)

weight with listeners
her apology didn't carry much ~ (a singer)

weight and attention
these fears are given too much ~ (of AI)

full weight
as the ~ of the tragedy fell over the neighborhood (AIDS)

great weight
his words and opinions carry ~
moral weight
his being a Catholic helped give ~ to his speech
carry (much) weight
her apology didn’t ~ with listeners (a singer)
gives more weight
the ranking system ~ to selectivity than efficacy

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

**weighted**

weighted variables
his methodology relies on 7 ~ (college rankings)

weighted equally
the three criteria were all ~ (a rating survey)

**substance & lack of substance: weight**

**weighty (substance)**

weighty decision
it was a ~
what to do was a ~ (war)

weighty issue
Congress has taken up a series of ~s

weighty step
renouncing one's citizenship is a ~

weighty topic
she writes about ~s

weighty (literary) works
he was known for filming ~ (Joseph Strick)

**importance & significance / substance & lack of substance: weight**

**welcome (welcome news, etc.)**

welcome news
the new economic data is ~

feeling, emotion & effect: house

welcome (verb)
welcome an investigation
we ~

acceptance & rejection: house

**well (source)**

well of outrage
the ~ is bottomless (fundamentalists)

well of (wifely) goodwill and loyalty
her ~, which had overflowed for so long, was drained dry

source: water

**well (health)**

get well
we’re sorry this happened, ~ soon (Treaty Oak in Austin)

*In 1989, Paul Stedman Cullen tried to kill the Treaty Oak in Austin, Texas. Thousands of kids addressed letters to the Treaty Oak, hoping it would get well.*

condition & status: health & medicine

**wellspring**

wellspring of pride
a ~ in the gym (Sequoyah High's women's basketball)

wellsprings of our society
sacrifice and self-reliance are the ~

source: water

**west (go west)**

‘goes west’
a one-pounder ~ (destroyed by tank in WW I)
gone west  
in ten days McCray had ~ to join McClintic (both died circa 1920)
♦ This expression seems to have gone out of favor.

failure, accident & impairment: direction / verb

West Point (epithet)

Thailand’s West Point  
Chulachomklao Military Academy is considered to be ~
Australian West Point  
he studied counterinsurgency at Duntroon, the ~
education: epithet / military / school & education  
epithet: military

wheel (grease the wheels)

grease the wheels  
the government is trying to ~ of growth (economy)  
flattery and civility ~ of all human dealings

amelioration & renewal: mechanism / verb  
social interaction: mechanism / verb

wheel (train wheels)

remove the training wheels  
we’re going to ~
♦ The Vice President of the US, Joe Biden, explained the 2012 withdrawal of US troops in Afghanistan as removing the training wheels from a bicycle.

dependency: mechanism  
help & assistance: mechanism

wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.)

Wheels Are Falling Off  
City fans responded to chants of “Ole’s At The Wheel” with “The ~”

wheels are (well and truly) off at Manchester United well, the ~
♦ “Nurses are the linchpins of hospitals, and when we lose them the wheels of medicine fall off.”

failure, accident & impairment: mechanism

wheel (spin one’s wheels)

spinning our wheels  
we’re in a rut and are ~ (financial reform)

spinning our wheels in Iraq and Afghanistan  
we’re just ~

spinning our wheels on too many important issues  
we’ve been ~ (government politics)

just spinning our wheels  
we’re ~, hoping to get out of the ditch

starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism / movement

progress & lack of progress: mechanism / movement

wheel (hamster wheel)

hamster wheel of social media  
we spend our time on this ~ and our newsfeeds
♦ The Rat Race is for Rats! (A bumper sticker.)  
♦ Even if you win the rat race, you’re still a rat. (A bumper sticker.)

progress & lack of progress: mechanism / movement

wheel (wheels of fate)

wheels of fate  
the ~ had started to turn, and for me there was no way out

fate, fortune & chance: mechanism

wheel (wheels of justice, etc.)

wheels of capital  
they want us to keep oiling the big ~ (US)

wheels of government  
the ~ turn slowly

wheels of justice  
the ~ must now turn (Hillsborough disaster / soccer)

operation: government / justice / mechanism

wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)

wheels of capital (of justice) operate slowly  
the ~ (grand-jury investigation)

wheels of government turn slowly  
the ~

wheels (many feel) turn (too) slowly  
a justice system whose ~

operation / speed: mechanism

wheel (asleep at the wheel)

asleep at the wheel  
several Republican incumbents have been ~ (election)

many states have been ~ (girls marrying too young in US)  
the World Health Organization was ~ (response to epidemic)

consciousness & awareness: mechanism  
control & lack of control: mechanism

wheel (hand on the wheel)

put his hand on the wheel at the Justice Department  
Trump tried to ~ and control the investigation

control & lack of control: mechanism

wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)

turn of the wheel  
federal judges are assigned the case by the ~, the spin of the wheel

fate, fortune & chance: gambling / sports & games

wheelhouse (noun)

in my wheelhouse
it’s not exactly ~
in the executive branch’s wheelhouse
things that are clearly in the ~ (rules, regulations)

experience / interest: boat

wheezing (condition)
wheezing businesses
  a landscape dominated by abandoned street fronts and ~

condition & status: breathing / health & medicine

whet (whet the appetite)
whet audiences’ appetites for films
  movie trailers ~
whet people’s appetite for spending
  museums try to ~
whet the appetites of fans
  the ad campaign is designed to ~ (TV)
whet the appetites of investors
  the company’s performance will not ~
whet appetites for a rematch
  their fight ~ (boxing)

Increase & decrease: blade / knife

whiff (noun)
whiff of anxiety
  there’s a ~ in the Asian air (about China)
whiff of bias
  journalists must be free of any ~
whiff of corruption
  the organization is tainted by the ~
whiff of incompetence
  the government’s handling of the crisis has the ~
whiff of insurrection
  the ~ is in the air (street protests)
whiff of opportunism
  behind his good intentions is a ~
whiff of scandal
  only one ~ has tainted the casino (Cherokee)
whiff of (Western) supremacy
  some critics detect a ~ in his book

evidence: smell

whiner (person)
hand wringers, worriers and whiners
  ~ (foreign policy)
character & personality: animal / person / sound

whining
whining
  her ~ is rubbing fans the wrong way (auto racer)

sound / speech: animal

whip (violence)
whipped them into shape
  it took a while, but I ~ (a coach)
coercion & motivation: verb / violence / whip
oppression: verb / violence / whip
directing: verb / violence / whip

whip (crack the whip)

  crack the whip
    he taught his deputy how to ~ (politician)

  cracking the whip on them
    he is ~ (President against BP for oil spill)
coercion & motivation: verb / violence / whip
oppression: verb / violence / whip

whip (resemblance)
whipped the snow into a frenzy
  the winds ~ (ground blizzard)
hitting, slamming & lashing: violence / whip
resemblance: whip

whip hand (noun)
has the whip hand
  Iran ~ (in the Gulf)
coercion & motivation: verb / violence / whip
oppression: verb / violence / whip

whipping boy (person)

  whipping boy
    China is used as a ~ in the campaign (politics)
  ♦ The whipping boy was punished in the prince’s stead at school.
punishment & recrimination: person / royalty / whip
person: royalty / whip

whirlpool (in a whirlpool)
in a whirlpool of thought and bewilderment
  they were lost ~ (Bedouins)
stuck in a whirlpool
  we are ~ of violence and extremism

amount & effect: sea / water

whirlpool (other)

  whirlpool of (religious) violence and extremism
    his murder laid bare the ~
entering the whirlpool
  the film was made as the Greek economy was ~
amount & effect: sea / water

whirlwind (noun)

whirlwind of attention
he has been at the center of a ~ (Nobel Prize)

whirlwind of controversy
a ~ surrounds him

whirlwind of (pent-up) civic forces
the dictator’s ouster unleashed a ~

whirlwind existence
she lived at a totally different pace from her husband’s ~

whirlwind romance
they got married after a ~

whirlwind relationship
they had a ~ and got married

whirlwind visit
he made a ~ to Afghanistan (Obama)

whirlwind 12 months
it has been a ~ since he returned to the sport (a boxer)

multitasking whirlwind
she was a ~ (sports, school, etc.)

unleashed a whirlwind
the dictator’s ouster ~ of pent-up civic forces (Suharto)

reap the whirlwind
he who sows the wind shall ~ (Bible)

♦ In the US, people speak of dust devils. Dust whirlwinds are called zawabi in Arabic. In Australia, a whirlwind is called a willy willy.

♦ “Just on the stroke of seven o’clock we heard a shrill whistling in the north-east, and, two or three minutes later, down came a black buran. Shagdur set out to return to his own sleeping-place. Half an hour later...he [re-]appeared at the opening of the yurt. He had lost his way, although his sleeping-place was only 15 paces from mine...It was pitch dark [and] impossible for any man to stand. Shagdur had been on his hands and knees the whole time. Only those who have been out in such a storm can form any conception of what it is like. You get bewildered, and want to keep going, without knowing where...and it affects the brain. Next morning, the effects of this grim desert tempest were very easy to see; the sand was heaped up all round my yurt, and there were little mounds on the sheltered side of the camels.” (A windstorm on the salt desert of Lop Nur in Xinjiang. From Central Asia and Tibet by Sven Hedin.)

amount & effect: air / atmosphere / storm / wind
activity: air / atmosphere / storm / wind
whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)

riding the whirlwind
he’s a ~

control & lack of control: atmosphere / storm / wind

whisper (sound)

whisper of a (distant) waterfall
the ~

sound: speech
resemblance: sound

whistle (blow the whistle)

blow the whistle on corruption
~. bribery, or abuse

blow the whistle on them
maybe they were afraid he might ~

warning: sound / verb

whistle (dog whistle)

dog whistles
to these are ~, Islamophobic tactics (politics)

racist dog whistles
he is launching his election campaign with ~

♦ In the US, a white politician claimed a black politician would “monkey things up.” The black politician replied, “He’s not using a (racist dog) whistle, he’s using a bullhorn.”

message / speech: sound

whistleblower (noun)

whistle-blower
he’s a ~

whistleblower complaint
the charges, contained in a ~ (against FAA)

drawn criticism from whistle-blowers
the company has ~

warning: person / sound

white (White Sea, etc.)

White Nile
the Blue Nile and the ~ come together in Khartoum

White Sea
the Solovetsky Islands are in the ~

White Volta
the ~ is a tributary of the Volta River

proper name: color

white elephant
in English a ~ is simply a useless extravagance

worth & lack of worth: animal / color

white knight
they needed a ~ to save the hospital

help & assistance: Middle Ages / person

whitewash (noun)

whitewash of justice
the mayor and police Superintendent railed against it as a ~

branded a whitewash
a public inquiry was ~ by victims’ families
concealment & lack of concealment: infrastructure
appearance & reality: infrastructure

whitewash (verb)

whitewash textbooks
a number of ~ Japan's wartime conduct

concealment & lack of concealment: infrastructure / verb
appearance & reality: infrastructure / verb

whittled

whittled away
his control has been ~ (a ruler facing protests)

decline: blade / knife
dismissal, removal & resignation: blade / knife

whittling (whittling down)

task of whittling down
he will leave the ~ the embassy to his successor

wild (people)

wild beast
those ~s shot you in the back (said at funeral)

wild celebration
the victory set off a ~ at the finish line (Olympics)

wild child
he was always mature for his age, he wasn't a ~

wild guess
the ' ~ is that 100,000…

wild hunch
she acted on a ~ (an inventor)

wild look
she burst through the door, a ~ in her eyes

wild melee
a ~ broke out (soccer riot in Kabul)

wild (control)

wild ending
in a ~ to the regular season (basketball)

wild shot
he flung up a ~ that missed horribly (basketball)

wild swings
protect consumers from ~ in energy prices

behavior: animal

wild (tailgate) parties
the ~ outside Arrowhead Stadium

wild rampage
dozens of teenage boys set off on a ~ (Central Park)

wild revelry
feasting accompanied by ~ (Mardi Gras)

wild rumor
another ~ going around was…

wild side
I love to show my ~ every now and then (sex)

wild streak
he must have brought out some ~ in me

wild youth

whether to remember his ~ or forget it

wild rite of passage
Las Vegas becomes a ~ for new 21-year-olds (booze)

wild and crazy
he was ~, young and dumb

wild and crazy (m)
the NFL has its ~ side

wild and reckless
I was at times ~ (gang member)

crazy and wild
it was ~ (wedding in non-traditional location)

Gone Wild
the creator of the "Girls ~" video series (spring break)

went wild
the 100,000 fans at the Camp Nou stadium ~ (soccer)

run wild
I will not ~ when my teacher is away

behavior: animal

wild card
Saddam Hussein is a ~

behavior / character & personality: cards
**wilderness (in the wilderness)**

in the wilderness of (intellectual) life
Chomsky is an important voice ~ in America

in the (international) wilderness
he spent 3 years ~ (player left off national team)

in the (musical) wilderness
she managed to record her album after a painful period ~

voices in the wilderness
there are some ~ calling for a digital Geneva Convention

wondering in the wilderness
formerly in charge of the city, now ~ (a leader)

**society: ground, terrain & land**
**dismissal, removal & resignation: society**
**acceptance & rejection: society**

**wilderness (society)**

wilderness years
the play was written during his ~ (while struggling)

**society: ground, terrain & land**
**dismissal, removal & resignation: society**
**acceptance & rejection: society**

**wilderness (area)**

uncharted wilderness
new routes into the ~ of the 21-century economy

online wilderness
international students are often in an ~ (universities)

**area: ground, terrain & land / journeys & trips**

**wild West**

Wild West
this is the ~, there's a lot of things to figure out (venture)
it's like the ~, there are no rules (Instagram)
it really is a ~ in terms of facial recognition (no rules, limits)

wild west
it's the ~ with automatic weapons (Afghanistan)

Wild West of copyright infringement
Google has tamed the ~

**behavior: history**
**control & lack of control: history**
**environment: history**

**wilt (verb)**

wilted in the second half
the team ~

wilted in the heat
the city's residents ~

wilted in theaters
the film ~

wilted under cross-examination

he ~ (convicted)

wilted under pressure
the offense ~ (sports)

wilted under his successor
the investigation ~

wilted sales
the sweltering heat ~ (retail)

efforts have wilted
legislative ~ (climate action)

stocks (also) wilted
European ~ (downturn)

**decline: plant / verb**

**wind (get / catch wind of something)**

captured wind of this
she first ~ in March (press investigation)

gotten wind of an attack
a few days earlier, US intelligence had ~

got wind of some improprieties
he ~ (fraud)

get wind of the war
the Israelis did not ~ (1973)

♦ "There's something dead up the branch." (A Southern Appalachians expression for something suspicious.)

**evidence: smell / verb / wind**

**wind (throw something to the wind)**

throwing civil liberties to the wind
we are ~

**dismissal, removal & resignation: atmosphere / verb / wind**

**wind (dangle in the wind)**

left dangling in the wind
the prosecutor was ~ (not supported by others)

**allegiance, support & betrayal: atmosphere / verb / wind**

**wind (wind of change, etc.)**

wind of change
but the ~ is blowing (rural areas)
there is a ~ blowing (state politics)

new wind
~s were whipping on the political stage (history)

political winds
anticipate the ~ blowing in Washington
the shifting ~ on campuses these days (Title IX)

buffeted by the (political) winds
the Hmong were ~ that blew through Vietnam

♦ Arabian horse are called "drinkers of the wind" because of their flaring nostrils.

**driving force: atmosphere / wind**
wind (wind its way)
wind back (verb)
wind down (verb)
wind down (relax)
windfall (noun)
window (window of opportunity)
window (launch window, etc.)
window (window to the West, etc.)

wind (wind its way)
wind back to the spring
wind back to the spring
to understand, ~ of 2014

wind down
the murder trial is ~
wound down
as 2010 ~...

starting, going, continuing & ending: mechanism
wind down (relax)
wind down after a performance, it takes him a long time to ~
he took a sleeping pill to ~

feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism / verb
ameliaration & renewal: mechanism / verb

windfall (noun)
windfall of $1.7 billion
higher commodity prices contributed to a ~ (BHP)
oil windfall
elites use their ~ to ensconce themselves in power

financial windfall
rising oil prices have brought them a ~

♦ You can collect dead limbs that the wind has blown down and use them to start a fire. Or, you can collect fruit that the wind has blown down and eat it. A windfall "falls into your lap" and is an unanticipated benefit.

cost & benefit: tree
worth & lack of worth: tree

window (window of opportunity)
window of opportunity
we've missed our ~
there was a little, little ~ (to win an Olympic medal)
the ~ could slam shut (stopping AIDS in India)
there is a small ~ for the motor system... (peak performance)

window of opportunity to solve
the ~ the crimes is closing (passage of time)

window would close
there was a risk the weather ~ (Mount Everest)

make the (launch) window
we don’t think we can ~ for March (NASA)

target / timeliness & lack of timeliness: window

window (launch window, etc.)
window
the ~ for doing a deal is small and closing
people don’t realize how close or narrow that ~ is (climate change)

window of time
we only have a small ~ (to prosecute rape cases)

window of good weather
the climbers had been waiting for a ~

windows between the (guard's) rounds
the 15-minute ~ (prison suicide)

application window
a second ~ will be opened (computer)

launch window
we don’t think we can make the ~ for March (NASA)
the ~ for Wednesday's mission opens at 0900 (space)
the ~ runs for 3 hours and 22 minutes (space)

summit window
weather forecasts show a potential ~ (Everest)
more and more are climbing during the same good ~s

weather window
Nasa had a ~ of 65 minutes to launch
everyone is trying to reach the summit in the same 12-hour ~

clear-weather window
the first feasible ~ was 19 and 20 May (Mount Everest)

legal window
the eight-year ~ when a suit could be filed

narrow window
the ship had a ~ of time to take out a ballistic missile

small window
the ~ between the end of the night and beginning of the day (birdsong)

15-minute windows
the ~ between the guard's rounds (prison suicide)

eight-year (legal) window
the ~ when a suit could be filed

window would close
there was a risk the weather ~ (Mount Everest)

make the (launch) window
we don’t think we can ~ for March (NASA)

target / timeliness & lack of timeliness: window

window (window to the West, etc.)
window to the West
'Dallas' in Finnish was our ~ (a 37-year-old Estonian)

window to the world
the computer screen is his ~ (homeless man)

window on relations
the leaked cables are a ~ with the world (diplomacy)
"window on the West"
St. Petersburg was Russia's ~ (Peter the Great)

window on a nervous planet
the Diplomatic Security Daily is a ~

window into his mind
his letters to his wife were a ~ (a politician)
this statement is a ~ (politician's gaffe about rape)

windows into (other) worlds
they were ~ and landscapes (museum dioramas)

window onto the wonders
his narrow focus opens a larger ~ of natural science

world's window
the ~ to Thailand (the Bangkok Post)

illuminating window
the case is an ~ into the pitfalls of capital punishment

opens a window
she ~ on Cape Verde's music (a singer)

portal: window

**window (out the window)**

window
gender goes out the ~ (female sports broadcaster)
went out the window
his game plan ~ (a boxer)

thrown the law out the window
the judge has ~

dismissal, removal & resignation: window
appearance & disappearance: window

**window (Overton window)**

Overton window
the ~ is the range of ideas tolerated in public discourse

acceptance & rejection: allusion / window

**window dressing**

window dressing
I was ~ (hired to fix problems, but ignored)

Scott Simon: Do you feel like you were window dressing? Deborah Epstein: That is why I stepped down when I was first invited to join the commission. I asked them specifically whether there was any risk of that because I didn't want to participate in being window dressing on such a serious and important issue. But almost four years in, I've seen no evidence of that. And so I do feel like it was a fig leaf to cover up the problem, and I can't participate in that.” (“Domestic Violence Expert Resigns From NFL Players Association Committee,” NPR, All Things Considered, Weekend Edition (Sports) with Scott Simon, June 16, 2018.)

substance & lack of substance: window

**wing (division)**

right wing
in the US, the ~ is adamantly opposed to abortion

"political" and "military" wings
no difference between ~ (terrorists)

division: bird

**wing (building)**

amputee wing
Ward 57, the ~ at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

branching system: bird

**wing (under one's wing)**

took her under his wing
Clark Terry noticed Reeves' abilities and ~ (jazz)

he took me under his wing
~ (a film mentor)

took the teacher under his wing
he ~ (mentor / first-year teacher)

took Tommy under his wing
so Andy ~ (Shawshank Redemption)

got you under our wing
we have ~ (support)

help & assistance: animal / bird

**wing (in the wings)**

in the wings
there are extremists ~

waiting in the wings
many fine musicians are ~

readiness & preparedness: theater
center & periphery: theater

**wing (clip / stretch one's wings)**

stretch my wings
my fans have allowed me to ~

clipped his wings
his bosses had ~ (cop assigned to desk)

constraint & lack of constraint: bird / verb

wink (noun)

wink
there’s a bit of a ~, it’s a joke (subtitle of book)
there’s a bit of a ~, we’re all in on it (subtitle of book)

subterfuge: eye / gesture

**winner (noun)**

winner
I don’t think there are any ~s (politics)

competition / success & failure: sports & games

**winnow (verb)**

winnows (preparatory) information
his staff ~ to a concise packet

searching & discovery: verb / wheat
worth & lack of worth: verb / wheat

win over (verb)

win over Brexiteers
can she ~ (English Prime Minister)

win over Hispanics
they are trying to ~ (politics)

allegiance, support & betrayal: sports & games / verb

winter (decline)

in the winter of my life
now ~, it was a great honor to... (explorer Don Walsh)

winter has (finally) come
~ to Game of Thrones (final two episodes)

♦ "I salute Victor Vescovo and his outstanding team for the successful completion of their historic explorations into the Mariana Trench. Six decades ago, Jacques Piccard and I were the first to visit that deepest place in the world's oceans. Now in the winter of my life, it was a great honour to be invited on this expedition to a place of my youth." ("Mariana Trench: Deepest-ever sub dive finds plastic bag" by Rebecca Morelle, BBC, May 13, 2019.)

decline: season
primacy, currency, decline and obsolescence: season
winter (resemblance)

winter sleep
nature is awakening from its ~

resemblance: season
winter (nuclear winter, etc.)

impact winter
debris from a comet strike could produce an ~
nuclear winter
a full-blown nuclear war would be followed by a ~
destruction: season

wire (down to the wire)

going down to the wire
business leaders are furious because the new change is ~ (Brexit)
timeliness & lack of timeliness: horse / sports & games

witch (noun)

witch
she's a ~ (disliked or feared woman)

color & personality: creature

witch-hunt

witch hunt
the campaign has sparked a ~ (for pedophiles)
thec but hunts of the late 1940s
the -Communist ~ and early '50s

"witch-hunt" on Wikileaks
Assange urges the US to end its ~

"witch-hunt" against Wikileaks
Assange has urged the US to renounce its ~
witch hunt tactics
I will not be subjected to your ~

celebrity witch-hunt
police denied a ~ (sex offenses against boys)

political witch hunt
the administration claims this is just a ~

anti-Communist witch hunts
the ~ of the late 1940s and early '50s

end witch-hunt
~, Assange urges US (on Wikileaks)
renounce its "witch-hunt"
Assange has urged the US to ~ oppression: allusion / creature / history / justice / violence
judgment: justice

with (support)

with you
I am ~

with him all the way
I am ~ (politics)

allegiance, support & betrayal: prep, adv, adj, particle

wither (verb)

withered
his faith in the government ~

wither in our (education) system
children ~ (rote learning)
decline: plant / verb

withering (adjective)

withering criticism
he has faced ~

feeling, emotion & effect: plant

wizard (person)

math wizard
only gifted ~s understand it (Poincare Conjecture)
dot-com wizard
~s becoming billionaires
marketing wizard
a ~ who hopes he had found the path to riches
financial wizard
he is regarded as a ~ and bankruptcy expert
knowledge & intelligence: creature / magic
ability & lack of ability: creature / magic
epithet: creature / magic
person: magic

wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
Wizard of Menlo Park
Edison was known as "The ~"

ability & lack of ability: epithet
knowledge & intelligence: epithet

wizardry
high-tech wizardry
the new weapon is a bit of ~
technological wizardry
in an age of ~...

knowledge & intelligence: creature / magic
ability & lack of ability: creature / magic

wobbly (adjective)
wobbly state
City Opera has been in a ~ since 2008

flaws & lack of flaws: equilibrium & stability

woke (adjective)
super woke
she’s like ~, you know, she’s like policing me (black family)

consciousness & awareness: sleep

wolf (predation)
wolf
a ~ can wear scrubs or doctor’s clothing or be a beautiful woman
♦ If you are not a wolf, a wolf will eat you. (Saudi Arabia.)
♦ Man is a wolf to man. (Russia.)
♦ He’s a wolf in sheep’s clothing.
♦ “Forgive me. I was raised by wolves.” (A bumper sticker seen in Asheville, North Carolina.)

behavior / predation: animal / wolf

wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)

wolf in sheep’s clothing
we’ve all heard of a ~ (district attorney)
two Middle East scholars portray him as a ~

subterfuge: animal / clothing & accessories / wolf
predation: animal / clothing & accessories / wolf
appearance & reality: animal / clothing & accessories / wolf

wolf (wolf down food)
wolfed down his meal
he ~

behavior: food & drink
area / location: forest

workhorse (noun)

workhorse
he's a ~

workhorse of an airplane
the 767 is a ~ (flying since 1981, also used for cargo)

workhorses of the aviation world
the 737 and A320 are the ~

strength & weakness / work & duty: horse

world (exploration)

totally different world
I was taken by the ~ down there (caving)
✧ "I was taken by the totally different world down there. I began to go
caving every weekend." (David Bunnell.)
✧ "Under the earth's crust there exists such an enormously great world,
in absolute darkness, that we can with some justice speak of a new
continent." (Alfred Bogli.)
✧ "You can't really say very much, if anything at all, about below the
surface." (David E. Smith, chief of NASA's Laboratory for Terrestrial
Physics.)
✧ "After the Roc Noir, I had the feeling of closing a door behind me. I was
entering another world. I was far from the world of the living. I had never
had this feeling on any other mountain." (Jean-Christophe Lafaille on the
east ridge of Annapurna in 2002.)
✧ "The deep sea is full of surprises. We may find species unlike any seen
before. The Cayman Trough may be like Arthur Conan Doyle's 'Lost
World.'" (From the Web site of Britain's National Oceanography Center.)

area: earth & world

world (on top of the world)
on top of the world
he was ~ again (happy)

feeling, emotion & effect: earth & world

world (fantasy)
dream world
it was her ~
live in a fantasy world
people think I ~
you can't ~
lived in a make-believe world
I ~ that afforded me great comfort (abused)
retreated into a fantasy world
she ~ (9-year-old, father jailed)

fantasy & reality: earth & world

world (Disney World, etc.)

World of Warcraft
he spent a lot of time online playing ~

Disney World (m)
live entertainment in all four ~ parks

proper name: earth & world

world (in the world)
in the (fickle) world of (New York) restaurants
he did what he could to survive ~
in the (staid) world of sumo
a rare event ~
in the (tempestuous) world of boxing
nothing is impossible ~
in the world of (horse) racing
he is a force ~
in the world of mountain biking
North Shore riding is legendary ~ (BC)
in the (murky) world of the (Japanese) bar trade
foreign women working ~
in today's world
it is risky, ~, to go to work (workplace violence)
in the design world
people ~ think…
in this (new) Internet world
in the bowling world
~, he is perceived as a…
in the surfing world
there have been a number of movies set ~
in (today's) privatized world
in a simulated world
influencing events and characters in a ~ (computers)
in the academic world
a debate that's currently going on ~
in the ancient world
the temple, a pilgrimage site ~
in both worlds
unlike some relatives, he lives ~ (Hispanic in US school)
in their own world
they're ~ (females having party-within-party at party)
in different worlds
experimentalists and theorists live ~s
in a perfect world
~, we would be able to…
in the (highly competitive) scientific world
in the non-Indian world
~, (Native Americans)
force in the world
he is a ~ of horse racing
live in (different) worlds
experimentalists and theorists ~
set in the (surfing) world
there have been a number of movies ~
survive in the (fickle) world
he did what he could to ~ of New York restaurants

environment: earth & world

world (particular)

world of (midtown) Manhattan
the ~
world of Washington
the ~ and the business world
world of ghosts
the ~ that blankets Southeast Asia (fortunetellers, etc.)
world of (branded) goods
the competitive ~
world of (academic) medicine
the publish-or-perish ~
world of (dive) travel
the ~
world of tomorrow
fixed aircraft will still exist in the ~ (military)
world of black magic and voodoo
a bizarre ~ (muti murders)
world of street life
the twilight ~ and girls for hire
world of cyberdrugstores
the new ~
world of boxing
welcome to the ~ (a Web site)
world of (extreme) kayaking
the ~
world of haves and have-nots
a Dickensian ~
world of rock and roll
the sex-and-drug-filled ~
today's world
~ offers us more choices but, ironically, less satisfaction
nomad's world
the Tibetan Plateau is a ~ (over 13,000 feet)
art world
the ~
art-world (m)
~ politics
aviation world
the ~ uses nautical miles (vs. statute miles)
blog world
some restaurants have embraced the ~ (instant marketing)
business world
does the ~ really need Harvard
the world of Washington and the ~
the ~ he inhabits
chess world
young Soviet-trained players dazzled the ~
entertainment world
the stratospheric reaches of the ~
hockey world
the news of his arrest shocked the ~
magazine world
the New York ~
rave world
he opened the door to the ~ for us
spirit world
long journeys to the ~ (Inuit)
West African Islam maintains ties to the African ~
twilight world
the ~ of street life and women for hire
plant, animal and insect worlds
how electrification has affected the ~
dog show world
Mick is the Michael Jordan of the ~ (a blue terrier)
music-business world
the ~ of midtown Manhattan
high-tech world
he's striking alliances throughout the ~
celebrity-mad world
a ~
3-D world
players roam around a ~
online world
the ~ has its perils (pro-ana, suicide sites, etc.)
boxing world
Foreman astounded the ~ by returning to the ring
collecting world
the ~ (artifacts of pop culture)
sportscasting world
open up the ~ for women
sex-and-drug-filled world
the ~ of rock and roll
Muslim world
the Kaaba is literally the center of the ~
Arab world
the anger and humiliation emanating from the ~
he is a folk hero in much of the ~ (Muntader al-Zaidi)
Islamic world
the Jews who came to Israel from the ~
the troubled ~
when Baghdad was capital of the ~ (9th century); Iran wants to be a leader in the ~

Dickensian world
a ~ of have and have-nots

academic world
the close-knit Polish ~
the sentences sent a chill through the ~ (China)
following the war and his return to the ~
the ~ has started a self-examination

avian world
the ~ is known for its great migrations (tern, albatross)

bizarre world
a ~ of black magic and voodoo (muti murders)

different world
it was a ~ when he started (coaching)

literary world
the ~ of Belfast

natural world
people and the ~ are on a collision course

new world
the ~ of cyberdrugstores

tribal worlds
the mountains shelter ~ lost in time (Caucasus)

virtual worlds
computer games that create ~ onscreen

leave-me-alone world
she retreats into her own ~ (athlete on game day)

Michael Jordan of the dog-show world
Mick is the ~ (a blue terrier)

reaches of the (entertainment) world
the stratospheric ~ of the ~

lives in both worlds
unlike some relatives, he ~ (Hispanic in US school)

opened up a (whole new) world
it ~ (radio)

open up the (sportscasting) world
~ for women

see the world
people who from a different perspective ~ (autism)

shocked the (hockey) world
the news of his arrest ~

maintains ties to the (African) spirit world
West African Islam ~

opened the door to the (rave) world
he ~ for us

**world (into a world)**

stroll into another world
Wright Creek Trailhead— ~

**environment: earth & world**

**world (lost world)**

celebrate that lost world
I’m going to ~ (rock journalism)

**primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: earth & world**

**world (extent)**

world of difference
listening can make a ~

world of good
it did me a ~

means the world to them
it ~ (care packages to military abroad)

meant the world to me
she ~ (a kind person)

**extent & scope: earth & world**

**worm (can of worms)**

open up a can of worms
an investigation will ~

**initiation: creature**

**worm (computers)**

worm
he took an existing ~ and tweaked it (a variant)

worm’s code
it required only a few changes to the original ~

worms and pop-ups
spam, spyware, viruses, ~ (Internet)

Code Red worm
protect themselves from the ~ (computers)

Slammer worm
the ~ that downed corporate networks in January

network worm
the ~ struck many corporations and compromised data

Internet worm
a new ~, "Goner," spread across the globe via e-mail

e-mail worm
the ~ can send itself to all addresses in Outlook
the ~ attempts to shut down anti-virus products

authors of (viruses and) worms
~ and viruses (computers)

viruses and worms
authors of ~ (computers)
computer: animal

worm's-eye (adjective)

worm's-eye charm
the book has a ~ (about a lowly adjunct)

perception, perspective & point of view: eye / ground,
terrain & land / insect / position

worship (verb)

worship Snowbird Creek
tout fishing devotees ~

enthusiasm: religion / verb
importance & significance: religion / verb
reverence: religion / verb

worth

worth it
it's not ~

cost & benefit: money

wound (noun)

wounds of Vietnam
healing the ~ (dissent vs. service)
wounds of the past
cold cases rip open the ~ (crime investigations)
wounds of war
and with the ~ all but healed... (US / Vietnam)
wounds of the war
the center addresses both the invisible and visible ~
war wounds
the ~ are still raw (between Japan and its neighbors)
childhood wound
real healing of our ~s
long-standing wounds
the report could heal ~ (Hillsborough disaster)
emotional wounds
people use drugs or sex to medicate ~
invisible wound
soldiers suffer from ~s (combat)
old wounds
talking with me opened ~ (World War II vets)
open wound
this is an ~ in Swedish society (murder of Olof Palme)
racial wounds
help heal old ~
invisible and visible wounds
the center addresses both the ~ of the war
healing of our (childhood) wounds
real ~
carry those wounds into adulthood
those who ~ (sexual abuse)
heal (old racial) wounds
help ~
heal the wounds
a ceremony of reconciliation meant to ~ (Nez Perce War)
licking their wounds
a lot of stock market investors are ~
open (old) wounds
these pictures will ~ (prisoner abuse repeated)
reopen (old) wounds
trials would ~ (Bloody Sunday)
reopen (these old) wounds
why ~ (historic civil rights crimes)
rubs salt in the wounds
it ~ to find that...
♦ "A knife wound heals; a wound caused by words does not." (A Turkish proverb.)
♦ "You've got to open the wound and clean it before it can heal. It's as if we've had this open gash on the arm for 40 years and have done nothing but put a bandage on it." (James E. Prince III, on the arraignment of Edgar Ray Killen for the murders of 3 civil-rights workers 40 years early in Mississippi.)

affliction: health & medicine / wounds & scars

wound (tightly wound)
tightly wound
he was bright, hardworking, but he seemed ~

character & personality: mechanism
feeling, emotion & effect: mechanism

wounded (adjective)
fatally wounded
the campaign is ~ (politics / election)
remains (badly) wounded
the economy ~

condition & status: health & medicine

woven

woven into the fabric
cheating is ~ of accepted conduct
Arab Americans are deeply ~ of America
Mexico is deeply ~ of the US economy

woven through the fabric
their legacy is ~ of our nation today (WW II generation)

division & connection: cloth

wow (verb)

wowing audiences
he has been ~ for decades (a singer)
feeling, emotion & effect: exclamation / verb
**wrap (under wraps)**
kept his debt under wraps
he ~ (financial infidelity)
keep it under wraps
if they know something, they ~ (cops)
kept under wraps
terms of the agreement were ~
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth

**wrap (take the wraps off something)**
took the wraps off its (latest) project
on Monday, Microsoft ~
takes the wraps off a (top-secret) mission
the book ~
inauguration: cloth / verb
concealment & lack of concealment: cloth / verb

**wraparound**
wraparound porch
on the west side of its ~ porch
wraparound (double) deck
its ~ of stands
wraparound (NASCAR) sunglasses
they've got ~ and mullets
configuration: cloth

**wrapped (covered)**
wrapped with (thick) clouds
the upper mountain was ~ (Everest)

“The living glow of the desert dawn wrapped a blue turban around the mountain’s lofty peak.” (Ibrahim al-Koni.)
cover / resemblance: cloth

**wrapped (wrapped up in something)**
wrapped up in the sex trade
middle-class kids also get ~
wrapped up in being
my identity had been ~ an athlete
get wrapped up in the sex trade
middle-class kids also ~

involvement: cloth

**wrap up (verb)**
wrap up within a few weeks
the work might ~ (investigation)
wrap up in 2020
the construction project was expected to ~
wrap up in May or June
that investigation is expected to ~ (government)
wraps on April 15
the session ~ (state legislature)
wrapped up the case
we ~ (an investigation)
wrap up a deal
is that possible that this week they could ~
wrap up the demonstration
activists agreed to ~ if the police…
wrapped up his report
he ~ on the president's address by… (newscaster)
wraps up today’s show
that ~, thanks to everyone…

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: cloth / verb
starting, going, continuing & ending: cloth / verb

**wreck (verb)**
wrecked his career
a throwing problem ~ (catcher can't throw to pitcher)
wrecking the markets
his wildly irresponsible comments are ~ (politics)
destruction: crashes & collisions / ruins / verb
failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / ruins / verb

**wreck (train wreck)**
train wreck
that interview with those NALF women was a real ~
he is a ~ waiting to happen (job)
fiscal train wreck
a ~ looms ahead (deficit government spending)
extent of the train wreck
the diplomats don't fully comprehend the ~ (UN)
headed for a train wreck
we are ~ (a politician about budget proposal)
destruction: crashes & collisions / train
failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / train

**wreck (person)**
coke-sniffing wreck
he was a ~
nervous wreck
I was a ~ at the job interview

destruction: crashes & collisions / person / ruins
failure, accident & impairment: crashes & collisions / person / ruins

**wreckage (noun)**
wreckage of misfortune
money to salvage a decent life from the ~
social wreckage
she describes the ~ of her bipolar episodes
salvage a (decent) life from the wreckage
money to ~ of misfortune
found a way out of his own wreckage
he ~ with the therapist's help
destruction: ruins
wrecked
wrecked by (phone) hacking
her life was ~
destruction: ruins
wrecking ball (noun)
5ft 10in wrecking ball
there was nowhere to hide against the ~ (Mike Tyson vs. Frank Bruno)
anti-globalist wrecking ball
she has done much to protect the UN from Trump’s ~
taken a wrecking ball to reform
they have ~ (Supreme Court)
destruction: ruins / tools & technology
wrench (throw a wrench)
throw a wrench into the works
this could ~
throw a wrench in the works
does this ~ (negotiations)
destruction: mechanism / verb
failure, accident & impairment: mechanism / verb
functioning: mechanism / verb
wrenching (adjective)
wrenching climax
the novel reaches a ~
feeling, emotion & effect sensation
wrestle (verb)
wrestling over her emotions
she is ~ (a celebrity)
wrestles over whether
he ~ he should have moved to Atlanta
wrestle with
that's one of the issues we have to ~ (terrorism)
wrestle with (tough) decisions
as you ~
wrestling with these issues
the government is ~ (info in wartime)
wrestle with its (economic) problems
Uzbekistan is now free to ~
wrestle with changing
they ~ the system
♦ In "A Photographer's Pilgrimage," the great Kazuyoshi Nomachi has wonderful pictures and text relating to the actual annual wrestling matches in the Nuba Mountains in southern Sudan. A victor might win a wife.

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: sports & games / verb / wrestling
wring (wring something from / out of something)
wring concessions from banks
the government hopes to ~
wring a (big) profit from his restaurant
he hopes to ~
wring art out of the rubble
in Kosovo, artists ~
wring (more) water from (existing) supplies
conservation can ~
wring (pay) concessions from the union
the city wants to ~
creation & transformation: pressure / verb
taking & removing: pressure / verb
wringing (through the wringer)

social-media wringer
Y.A. titles that passed through the ~ (books)
put contestants through the wringer
they ~ (a quiz show)
put the FAA through the wringer
the congressman ~ (congressional hearings)
put his (approval) rating through the wringer
the government shutdown ~ (politics)
gone through the wringer
she has ~ with assorted investigations (a politician)
put through the wringer
a black comedy about a weakling being ~
he has been ~ this week and deserves it (a sports doper)

oppression: clothing & accessories / mechanism / pressure
affliction: mechanism
accusation & criticism: mechanism
wrinkle (noun)

another wrinkle
~ in the trans-Atlantic relationship concerns Moscow
some wrinkles
there are some ~ to be ironed out
iron out wrinkles
they still need to ~ in their new contract
flaws & lack of flaws: cloth
wrist (slap on the wrist)
slap on the wrist
he needs more than just a ~ (justice / sentencing)
slap on the wrist for a pedophile
a ~ (title of article)
financial slap on the wrist
the FTC’s fine will be more than just a ~ (on Facebook)
punishment & recrimination: hand
write (write out)
write you out
don’t let anybody ~ (dwarf plays basketball)
dismissal, removal & resignation: writing & spelling
writing (writing on the wall)
write
the ~ is on the wall
fate, fortune & chance: Bible / religion
written (written on it, etc.)
written all over it
the attack has Iran ~
evidence: writing & spelling

Y

yardstick (noun)
yardstick to measure
we need to know the actual distance so we have a ~
yardstick for measuring
the real ~ probability is "How surprised should we be?"
China’s yardstick
India measures its economic development against ~
celestial yardstick
certain stars could serve as ~s to measure distances
most important yardstick
it is the ~ of their skill and achievement (birders’ lists)
view money as a yardstick
I ~ for how much I’ve accomplished (versus greed)
use it as a yardstick
once you have an initial bracket, ~ for correction (artillery)
serve as (celestial) yardsticks
certain stars could ~ to measure larger distances
measurement: tools & technology
yawn (verb)
yawn (wide) open
the ship’s hatches ~ (container ship full of cocoa)

resemblance: bodily process / verb

yawn (noun)
big yawn
high school quickly became a ~ (bored teen)
feeling, emotion & effect: bodily process

yawning (adjective)
yawning gap
the ~ is now wider (cultural and economic inequality)

extent & scope: bodily process

year (year has come and gone)
year has come and gone
a ~ since we heard the news about Billy Joe

past & present: movement

yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
Yellow River
the ~ is known as the cradle of Chinese civilization
Yellow Sea
the ~ lies between China and the Korean Peninsula

proper name: color

yesterday (noun)
one single yesterday
“I’d trade all my tomorrows, for that ~”
yesterday and the day before
he is just as committed today as he was ~ (anti-terrorism)
past & present: day

yesteryear

standards of yesteryear
can Russia maintain the ~ (Soyuz rocket malfunction)
past & present: direction

young (adjective)
young aircraft
very ~ also carry a high risk (of crashing)
young country
Macedonia is a ~
age: baby / death & life
growth & development: baby / death & life

yo-yo (up and down)
yo-yo dieting
~ is not good
yo-yo team
why the Tigers are such a ~ (Bangladeshi cricket)

The World Yo-Yo Championship is held each year and has its own website.
increase & decrease: direction / movement / sports & games

yoke (under the yoke)

under the yoke of corruption
the people have suffered for too long ~
under a yoke of hatred
~, prejudice and bigotry (Armenians in 1915)
oppression: animal

yoke (from the yoke)

from the yoke of (Arab) domination
we must liberate them ~ (Darfur)
free themselves from the yoke
they seek to ~ of the federal government
rescued them from the yoke
we ~ of dictatorship

oppression: animal

yoke (other)

take up the yoke
more people must ~ of responsibility
threw off the yoke
they ~ of British colonial rule
throwing off the yoke
South American leaders are ~ of US imperialism
♦ The three types of yokes are: the head yoke, the neck yoke, and the withers yoke. India has the largest number of working oxen or cattle in the world.
oppression: animal

Z

zenith (at the zenith)

at its zenith
the fall marathon season is ~
Portugal then was ~ (history)
at the zenith of influence
he is ~ in Washington
achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / height / sun
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / height / sun

zenith (during the zenith)

during its (commercial) zenith
the division sold millions ~ (cars)
achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / height / sun
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / height / sun

zenith (other)

zenith of (judicial) restraint
the decision is the ~
zenith of wealth and power
Djenné and Timbuktu reached their ~ in the 16th century
glow of its zenith
the band has tried to capture the ~ (music)
zenith comes
the ~ on July 12 (Protestant marching in N. Ireland)
passed its zenith
liberal democracy has ~ (opinion)
reached its zenith
opera ~ during the romantic period

achievement, recognition & praise: astronomy / height / sun
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: astronomy / height / sun

zero in on (verb)

zeroing in on his location
police are ~
target: weapon / verb

zip (verb)

zipped through (many) witnesses
we ~ today (a trial)
speed: sound / verb

zombie (computers)

zombie
computers recruited as ~s need to be on when called
zombie attack
~s have tried to block access to Web sites
zombie computer
the user of a ~ is unaware it has been commandeered
~s can be used for denial-of-service attacks
one case involves as many as 300,000 ~s
the use of ~s to launch attacks is not new
zombie network
those seeking to create ~s, known as botnets
army of zombies
they band these computers together into an ~ (botnets)
ranks of zombies
hundreds of thousands of computers belong to the ~

calendar: astronomy / height / sun

computer: creature

zombie (behavior)

mindless zombies
we are becoming ~ (reliance on smart phones, etc.)

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 709 of 982
behavior: creature

zone (combat zone)

combat zone of massage parlors
the seedy, neon-drenched ~

conflict / environment: military
zone (target zone)

"target zone" for your heart rate
exercising in a ~

target: weapon
zone (red zone, etc.)

red zone
that area is considered a ~, where you should go
danger: color / sign, signal, symbol
zoo (environment)

zoo
it's a kind of ~ (social scene at Newport mansion)

environment: animal / zoo
zoo (group)

zoo of (subatomic) particles
the Standard Model includes a ~ (physics)
group, set & collection: animal / zoo

zoom (zoom out)

zoom out
I think we have to ~ and see some of the context here

perception, perspective & point of view: position / verb
The thesaurus / categories

ABILITY & LACK OF ABILITY (1) (see also condition & status; functioning)

- basketball: Michael Jordan (epithet)
- blade: edge (lose one’s edge)
- body: agile (adj), agility (n), clumsy (adj), fit (adj), fitness (ability), nimble
- books & reading: illiterate (adj)
- boxing: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
- creature: wizard (person), wizardry
- epithet: Kipling (Rudyard), Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Napoleon (of surgery, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- fitness & thinness: lean (size)
- gift: gift (gift for languages, etc.), gifted
- health & medicine: basket case, fit (adj), fitness (ability), handicapped
- knife: edge (lose one’s edge)
- magic: wizard person, wizardry
- materials & substances: brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), flexible (adj), flexible (character), inflexible (character), rigid (constraint), rigid (character), supple (adj)
- mechanism: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), smart (technology)
- music: chops (expertise)
- nose: nose (ability)
- school & education: IQ (ability), study (quick study)
- speech: mute (speech)
- sports & games: Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.)
- water: depth (out of one’s depth)

ABSORPTION & IMMERSION (1)

- animal: sponge (n)
- breathing: inhale (v)
- burial: bury (immerse)
- food & drink: drink in (v), lap up (v)
- mechanism: hoover (hoover up, etc.)
- tongue: lap up (v)
- verb: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), bury (immerse), drink in (v), hoover (hoover up, etc.), imbibe (v), immerse (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), sink in (v), soak up (v), steep (v), suck up (v)
- water: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), absorbed, immerse (v), immersed, immersion, sink in (v), soak up (v), soaked, sponge (n), steep (v), steeped, suck up (v), sunk in

ACCEPTANCE & REJECTION (1) (see also attraction & repulsion; avoidance & separation; dismissal, removal & resignation; division & connection; inclusion & exclusion)

- allusion: window (Overton window)
- arm: embrace (v), embraced, reach (reach out)
- back: back (turn one’s back)
- bodily process: retch (v)
- color: blacklist (v), blackball (v)
- direction: turn down (v)
• food & drink: Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.), stomach (accept)
• health & medicine: leper (person), quarantine (v)
• house: welcome (v)
• love, courtship & marriage: spurned
• mark: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• materials & substances: attachment (n)
• money: buy (buy into something), buy (other), buy-in
• person: hermit (person), leper (person), outcast (person), pariah (n)
• sheep: fold (to / into the fold)
• society: banished, banishment (n), blackball (v), blacklist (v), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, leper (person), ostracized (society), outcast (person), shun (v), shunned, untouchable (person), wilderness (in the wilderness), wilderness (society)
• stomach: choke (v), swallow (accept), swallowed
• temperature: cold shoulder, freeze out (v), warm (v)
• throat: swallow (accept), swallowed
• throwing, putting & planting: outcast (person)
• verb: back (turn one’s back), blackball (v), buy (other), embrace (v), freeze out (v), quarantine (v), reach (reach out), retch (v), shun (v), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), turn down (v), warm (v)
• window: window (Overton window)

ACCESS & LACK OF ACCESS (1) (see also opportunities & possibilities; portal)
• astronomy: black hole
• bottle: bottle up (v)
• container: bottle up (v), open up (access)
• doors & thresholds: door (access), foot (foot in the door), shut out (v)
• foot: foot (foot in the door)
• gate: gate (society)
• tools & technology: black box (n)
• verb: bottle up (v), open up (access), shut out (v), tap (v), tap into (v)
• water: tap (v), tap (n), tap into (v)

ACCESS & LACK OF ACCESS (2)
• constraint & lack of constraint: open (open marriage, etc.)
• mind: close-minded (adj), mind (open mind), open-minded, openness (n)
• restraint & lack of restraint: open (open marriage, etc.)

ACCUSATION & CRITICISM (1) (see also speech)
• allusion: jeremiad (bitter lament)
• animal: savage (v), venom (n), venomous (adj)
• Bible: jeremiad (bitter lament)
• blade: hatchet job (n)
• boat: broadside (n)
• boxing: come (come out swinging), jab (n), pummel (v)
• cooking: grill (v), skewer (v), skewered
• creature: demonization (n), demonized
• direction: come down on (v), take down (v), takedown (n)
• family: scold (v)
• finger: finger (accusation), finger (point a finger), finger-pointing
• fist: bash (v), beaten (beaten up), pummel (v)
• force: blast (v), lay (lay into), slam (v)
• ground, terrain & land: dirt (political dirt, etc.), mud (drag something through the mud), mudslinging (n), stone (throw stones, etc.), sully (v)
• light & dark: shade (throw shade)
• materials & substances: vitriol (n)
• mechanism: wringer (through the wringer)
• military: ammunition, attack (under attack, etc.), blast (v), broadside (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire), fire (fire back), firing squad, flak (criticism), fusillade (n), salvo (n), snipe (v), sniping (n)
• pile: pile-on (n)
• predation: savage (v)
• religion: jeremiad (bitter lament), crucified, crucify (v)
• snake: venom (n), venomous (adj)
• sound: boo (n), rail (v)
• speech: assassination (character assassination), callout (criticism), rail (v)
• sports & games: game (blame game, etc.), pile-on (n), take down (v), takedown (n)
• storm: thunderbolt (n)
• temperature: heat (criticism)
• tongue: tongue-lashing
• verb: bash (v), blast (v), come down on (v), crucify (v), finger (point a finger), go (go after somebody / attack), grill (v), lambast (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mud (drag something through the mud), pillory (v), pummel (v), rail (v), scold (v), skewer (v), slam (v), snipe (v), sully (v), take down (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
• violence: assassination (character assassination), bash (v), beaten (beaten up), crucified, crucify (v), lash out (v), pillory (v), pilloried, pummel (v), savage (v), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
• weapon: ammunition, attack (under attack, etc.), attack (n), blast (v), broadside (noun), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire), fire (fire back), flak (criticism), fusillade (n), go (go after somebody / attack), gun (criticism), potshot (n), salvo (n), shot (criticism), snipe (v), sniping (n)
• whip: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
• wrestling: take down (v), takedown (n)

**ACHIEVEMENT, RECOGNITION & PRAISE (1)** (see also bases; importance & significance; priority; superlative)

• allusion: Matilda effect
• apple: apple (Golden Apple)
• astronomy: galaxy (n), star (person), star (achievement), supernova (achievement), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• back: back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun)
• clapping: applaud (v)
• creature: giant (achievement), titan (n)
• day: heyday (n)
• direction: apex (achievement), elevate (v), elevation (n), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rise (rising), summit (at the summit), top (on / at / to the top)
• fruits & vegetables: apple (Golden Apple)
• gesture: applaud (v), back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun), cap (tip one’s cap), hat (take off one’s hat to somebody), nod (refer), salute (v)
• ground, terrain & land: height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), heights (other)
• hat: cap (tip one’s cap), hat (take off one’s hat to somebody)
• height: elevate (v), elevation (n), heights (to new heights, etc.), lofty (adj), pinnacle (achievement), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rise (rising), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• history: laurels (praise)
• infrastructure: pinnacle (achievement)
• journeys & trips: milestone
• light & dark: luminary (n), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
• materials & substances: golden (golden girl, boy)
• military: coup (achievement), salute (v)
• mining: golden (golden girl, boy)
• money: tribute (pay tribute)
• mountains & hills: peak (at the peak), summit (at the summit)
• music: praise (sing someone’s praises), unsung (praise)
• person: golden (golden girl, boy), star (person)
• picture: masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
• school & education: apple (Golden Apple)
• sign, signal, symbol: badge (badge of honor), medal (n), trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.)
• size: giant (achievement), titan (n)
• sound: cheer (n), cheer (cheer on)
• speech: ode (praise)
• sports & games: lap (victory lap), track record
• star: star (person), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
• sun: zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• theater: gallery (cheering gallery)
• tree: laurels (praise)
• verb: applaud (v), cheer (cheer on), elevate (v), hat (take off one’s hat to somebody), nod (refer), praise (sing someone’s praises), rise (achieve), salute (v)

ACTION, INACTION & DELAY (1) (see also avoidance & separation; confronting, dealing with & ignoring things; eagerness & reluctance; reconciliation, resolution & conclusion; responsibility; starting, going, continuing & ending)
• allusion: Gordian knot
• ball: ball (ball in somebody’s court)
• clock: clock (run out the clock)
• face: face up (face up to something)
• foot: feet (drag one's feet), foot-dragging
• football: clock (run out the clock), tackle (v)
• gesture: hand (throw up one's hands)
• government: red tape
• ground, terrain & land: dust (collect dust)
• hand: hand (sit on one’s hands), handle (deal with), handled, handwringing (n), hold (on hold), holdup (n)
• journeys & trips: can (kick the can down the road), road (push something down the road)
• mechanism: button (pause button)
• military: stand down (v)
• movement: can (kick the can down the road), feet (drag one’s feet), hand (sit on one’s hands), inertia (n), move (take action), road (push something down the road), sit (sit on one’s hands), slow (adj), stand by (v), step in (v)
• religion: limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
• rope: Gordian knot
• sleep: nap (noun)
• sports & games: ball (ball in somebody’s court), tackle (v), waiting game
• standing, sitting & lying: sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v), stand by (v), stand down (v)
• tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
verb: can (kick the can down the road), clock (run out the clock), dust (collect dust), face up (face up to something), feet (drag one’s feet), hand (sit on one’s hands), hand (throw up one’s hands), handle (deal with), move (take action), needle (move the needle, etc.), road (push something down the road), sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v), stand by (v), stand down (v), step in (v), tackle (v), trigger (pull the trigger)

walking, running & jumping: step in (v), tackle (v)

weapon: trigger (pull the trigger)

ACTIVITY (1)

• air: whirlwind (n)
• alcohol: ferment (n)
• animal: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), bristle (v), crawl (activity), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), hornet’s nest, swarm (v), swarm (n)
• atmosphere: whirlwind (n)
• bird: fly (activity), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
• bubble: bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
• creature: ghost town
• death & life: alive (activity), alive (come alive), hibernation (in hibernation), life (spring to life)
• dog: bristle (v)
• engine: overdrive (in / into overdrive)
• explosion: boom (jade boom, etc.), boom (increase), burst (activity)
• fire: burning (slow-burning), smolder (v)
• flying & falling: flurry (activity), fly (activity)
• hair: bristle (v)
• health & medicine: comatose (adj), febrile (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch (n), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), lethargic (adj), torpor (n)
• heating water: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
• insect: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), beehive (activity), buzz (activity), crawl (activity), hive (n), hornet’s nest, swarm (v), swarm (n)
• light & dark: alight (activity), light (lit up)
• mechanism: gear (in full gear), gear (kick into gear, etc.), hum (hum along), hum (n), hyperdrive (into hyperdrive), neutral (in neutral), overdrive (in / into overdrive)
• mental health: frenzied (adj), frenzy (other)
• mining: bonanza (n), gold rush
• money: bonanza (n), gold rush
• movement: hop (v), swirl (v)
• pendulum: swing (in full swing)
• predation: frenzy (feeding frenzy)
• sleep: restlessness, sleepy, wake (resemblance)
• snow & ice: freeze (v), freeze (activity), frozen (activity)
• sound: abuzz, boom (increase), chatter (data), hum (n), hum (hum along), noise (data), quiet (adj), static (n)
• standing, sitting & lying: lie (lie low)
• storm: storm (calm before the storm), whirlwind (n)
• temperature: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), cold (cold case, etc.), cool (cool off / activity), febrile (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch, frozen (activity), heat up (v), hot (adj), hotspot (place), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
• verb: boom (increase), brew (activity), bristle (v), bubble (v), bubble up (v), cool (cool off / activity), crawl (activity), fly (activity), freeze (v), heat up (v), hop (v), hum (hum along), lie (lie low), life (spring to life), lit (lit up), percolate (v), simmer (v), scramble (v), swirl (v), smolder (v), swarm (v), wake (resemblance)
• walking, running & jumping: scramble (v)
• water: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble (n), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), swirl (v)
• wind: whirlwind (n)

ADAPTING (1)
• allusion: procrustean (adj)
• clothing & accessories: one-size-fits-all, tailor (v)
• verb: tailor (v)

ADDITION (2) (see also health & medicine; mental health)
• behavior: addictive (adj)
• condition & status: clean (addiction)
• consciousness & awareness: opiate (n)
• dependency: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency)
• enthusiasm: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), addictive (adj), crave (v), fix (n), habit, high (enthusiasm), hooked, junkie (person)
• fantasy & reality: pipe dream, rabbit hole
• feeling, emotion & effect: addictive (adj), narcotic
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: overdose (n)

ADMIRATION & CONTEMPT (1) (see also achievement, recognition & praise; superiority & inferiority)
• eye: look (look up to somebody), look (look down on something), nose (look down one’s nose)
• gesture: look (look down on something), nose (look down one’s nose)
• height: look (look up to somebody), look down (look down on somebody), nose (look down one’s nose), pedestal (on a pedestal), pedestaled
• nose: nose (look down one’s nose)
• verb: look (look up to somebody), look (look down on something)

AFFIX (2)
• flaws & lack of flaws: over (overheated, etc.)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: over (overheated, etc.)
• superiority & inferiority: out (outpace, etc.)

AFFLICTION (1) (see also corruption; predation)
• allusion: albatross (n), Frankenstein (product), fury (creature), monster (create a monster), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
• animal: albatross (n), back (off one’s back), dog (afflict), dogged (hounded), eat (destroy), gadfly (person), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), hounded (dogged), leech (person), parasite (n), riddled
• atmosphere: fallout (effect)
• back: back (off one’s back)
• bird: albatross
• blade: cut (a thousand cuts)
• bodily process: choke (v)
• breathing: choke (v)
• burden: bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), heavy (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
• clothing & accessories: shoe (a stone in the shoe)
• cooking: skewer (v), skewered
• creature: bedevil (v), bedeviled, bogeyman (n), demon (affliction), Frankenstein (product), fury (creature), genie (initiation), ghost (memory), gremlin (n), haunt (v), haunted, monster (create a monster), monster (affliction), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), specter (n)
• dog: bird-dog (v), dog (afflict), dogged (hounded), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), hounded (dogged)
• food & drink: eat (destroy)
• health & medicine: alley (Cancer Alley), boil (affliction), cancer (n), cancerous (adj), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), disease (affliction), endemic (adj), epidemic, gall (v), growth (cancerous, etc.), headache, hives (n), infection (corruption), metastasize (v), neck (pain in the neck), pain (n), pathology (n), patient zero, plague (v), plague (n), plagued, rash (affliction), scar (v), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, sore (affliction), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj), tumor (n), unscathed (adj), wound (n)
• horse: gadfly (person)
• infrastructure: alley (Cancer Alley)
• insect: gadfly (person), infest (v), infested, riddled
• knife: cut (a thousand cuts)
• magic: cursed
• mark: scar (v), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring
• mechanism: put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
• neck: neck (pain in the neck)
• nuclear energy: fallout (effect)
• person: gadfly (person), leech (person)
• plant: bane (n), thorn, thorny
• predation: eat (destroy), heel (nip at somebody’s heels)
• religion: bedevil (v), bedeviled, cursed, fury (creature), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
• sensation: gall (v), irritant (n), irritated, needle (v), neck (pain in the neck), pinch (n), prick (v), shoe (a stone in the shoe)
• throat: choke (v)
• verb: bear (a weight, etc.), bedevil (v), burden (v), choke (v), convulse (v), dog (afflict), eat (destroy), fester (v), gall (v), haunt (v), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), infest (v), needle (v), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), plague (v), prick (v), scar (v), skewer (v), torture (afflict), weigh (oppress)
• violence: scourge (n), torture (afflict), torture (affliction), tortured, waterboarding (n)
• weapon: shrapnel (n)
• weight: bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), heavy (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
• whip: scourge (n)
• wolf: heel (nip at somebody’s heels)
• wounds & scars: scar (v), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, unscathed (adj), wound (n)

AGE (1)
• baby: baby (younger), young (adj)
• death & life: young (adj)

AIR (2) (see also atmosphere; sky; wind)
• activity: whirlwind (n)
• amelioration & renewal: air (breath of fresh air), air (clear the air)
• amount & effect: downdraft, storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
• appearance: air (appearance)
• appearance & disappearance: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), nowhere (out of nowhere), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
• attenuation: deflate (pressure)
• certainty & uncertainty: air (up in the air)
• conflict: turbulence
• corruption: miasma
• destruction: puncture (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: filter (v)
• environment: air (environment), air (in the air), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (environment), weather (environment)
• feeling, emotion & effect: air (breath of fresh air), deflate (emotion), deflated, pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
• flaws & lack of flaws: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
• identity & nature: air (environment)
• increase & decrease: ballooning, inflate (v), inflated, overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v)
• initiation: oxygen (fuel)
• occurrence: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• origin: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• presence & absence: vacuum (n), void (n)
• substance & lack of substance: air (hot air), empty (adj)

ALCOHOL (2)
• activity: ferment (n)
• behavior: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), inebriate (v)
• concealment & lack of concealment: bootleg (adj), bootlegger
• consciousness & awareness: black out (v)
• control & lack of control: drunk (adj)
• feeling, emotion & effect: drunk (adj), hangover, intoxicate (v), intoxicated, intoxicating, sober (v), sober (adj), sobering
• mixture: cocktail
• restraint & lack of restraint: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), inebriate (v)

ALLEGIANCE, SUPPORT & BETRAYAL (1) (see also disruption; help & assistance; sanctioning; authority & non-conformity; unanimity & consensus)
• allusion: believer (true believer), road (road to Damascus)
• animal: horse (switch horses), rat (snitch), shark (throw someone to the sharks), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
• arm: embrace (v), embraced
• atmosphere: wind (dangle in the wind)
• back: back (v), back (behind somebody's back), backed, backing (support)
• blade: cutthroat
• boat: board (on board), mutinous (adj), mutiny (n), ship (abandon / jump ship)
• boxing: corner (in one's corner)
• bullet: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
• burden: pull (pull for someone)
• carpets & rugs: rug (pull the rug out)
• clothing & accessories: hung (hung out to dry)
• container: out (want out)
• corner: corner (in one's corner)
• direction: bring around (v), down (down for something), go (go along), side (on one's side), turn (turn against / on something), up (up for something)
• fence: fence (straddling a fence), fence (fence-straddling), straddle (straddle the fence)
• flags & banners: banner (under the banner), banner (behind the banner), banner (banner of Islam, etc.)
• food & drink: egg (put all one's eggs in a basket, etc.), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)
• government: vote (n)
• heart: heart (allegiance), heart (change of heart)
• history: wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something)
• horse: horse (switch horses), wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something)
• infrastructure: prop up (v)
• journeys & trips: go (go along)
• knife: backstabber, backstabbing, cutthroat, stab (stab somebody in the back)
• leg: leg (leg to stand on)
• love, courtship & marriage: bed (jump into bed with someone), infidelity (n)
• materials & substances: stick (stick to / by / with something)
• mechanism: bus (allegiance), truck (control)
• military: AWOL, desert (v), insurrection, rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rank-and-file (adj)
• money: buy (buy into something), buy-in, sell out (v)
• movement: go (go along)
• person: rat (snitch)
• position: back (v), backed, backing (support), side (on one’s side / time), side (on one’s side / person)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: against (opposition), behind (support), down (down for something), for (support), in (all in), out (want out), there (there for me, etc.), up (up for something), with (support)
• rat: rat (snitch)
• religion: faith, recant (v)
• royalty: fealty (n)
• shark: shark (throw someone to the sharks)
• shoulder: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
• sound: cheer (cheer on), drum up (v)
• sports & games: bat (go to bat for somebody), win over (v)
• standing, sitting & lying: lean towards (v), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by someone (support), stand up (stand up for something), straddle (straddle the fence)
• temperature: lukewarm (adj)
• train: train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
• verb: back (v), bed (jump into bed with someone), bring around (v), bullet (take a bullet for somebody), bus (throw somebody under the bus), cheer (cheer on), desert (v), embrace (v), go (go along), horse (switch horses), hung (hung out to dry), lean towards (v), post (abandon one’s post), prop up (v), pull (pull for someone), rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), recant (v), rug (pull the rug out), sell out (v), shark (throw someone to the sharks), stab (stab somebody in the back), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by someone (support), stand up (stand up for something), straddle (straddle the fence), turn (turn against / on something), vote (vote with one’s feet, etc.), wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something), walk (walk away from something), weight (put / throw one’s weight behind something), win over (v), wind (dangle in the wind), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
• violence: bus (throw somebody under the bus), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
• walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), jump (move), step (every step of the way), vote (vote with one’s feet, etc.), walk (walk away from something)
• weight: weight (put / throw one's weight behind something)
• wind: wind (dangle in the wind)
• wolf: wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)

ALLUSION (2)
• acceptance & rejection: window (Overton window)
• accusation & criticism: jeremiad (bitter lament)
• achievement, recognition & praise: Matilda effect
• action, inaction & delay: Gordian knot
• adapting: procrustean (adj)
• affliction: albatross (n), Frankenstein (product), fury (creature), monster (create a monster), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: believer (true believer), road (road to Damascus)
• alternatives & choices: Hobson’s choice, Scylla and Charybdis
• amelioration & renewal: panacea (n)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: Rosetta Stone
• appearance & reality: chalice (poisoned chalice)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: Barnum, it (it girl, etc.)
• attraction & repulsion: pied piper, siren (siren call / song), siren (other)
• behavior: Lord of the Flies
• biodiversity: Noah’s Ark
• canal: Venice (epithet)
• certainty & uncertainty: Bermuda Triangle
• character & personality: Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), Panglossian, Pollyanna, Pollyannaish (adj)
• coercion & motivation: hector (v)
• commitment & determination: believer (true believer), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• competition: Darwinian
• complexity: Gordian knot, labyrinth
• comprehension & incomprension: Delphic (adj), Rosetta Stone
• concealment & lack of concealment: cat (bell the cat)
• conflict: cold war, Gandhi, Gandhian, Lawrence (T.E.)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: frog (frog in boiling water)
• consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water), road (road to Damascus)
• control & lack of control: King Canute, Lady Macbeth (epithet)
• creation & transformation: Phoenix (myth), road (road to Damascus)
• danger: Scylla and Charybdis
• destruction: Armageddon, holocaust, kiss of death, vandal (n)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: cat (bell the cat), herculean (adj), Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, Sisyphean (adj)
• direction: breadcrumb
• disruption: Jacobin
• division & connection: iron curtain, Maginot Line, Paradise Lost (allusion)
• environment: Dantesque (adj), Dickensian, frog (frog in boiling water), never-never land, Promised Land
• failure, accident & impairment: Waterloo
• fantasy & reality: curiouser and curiouser, El Dorado, heffalump (creature), Kafkaesque (adj), never-never land, quixotic (adj), rabbit hole, Twilight Zone, Walter Mitty
• fate, fortune & chance: chalice (poisoned chalice), Faustian (adj), kiss of death, midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), Sword of Damocles
• feeling, emotion & effect: stoic (adj)
• flaws & lack of flaws: Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.), sweet spot
• future: oracle (person)
• help & assistance: Marshall Plan
• identity & nature: believer (true believer)
• importance & significance: triumvirate (n)
• initiation: Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), ship (launched a thousand ships)
• judgment: draconian (adj), Solomonic (adj)
• message: Cassandra, jeremiad (bitter lament)
• money: Great Gatsby, Midas (Midas touch)
• oppression: Big Brother, Cinderella, draconian (adj), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), inquisition (n), Lord of the Flies, McCarthy, McCarthyite, Orwellian (adj), pitchfork (oppression), procrustean (adj), reign of terror / fear, etc.; witch-hunt
• perception, perspective & point of view: Rashomon (point of view), Rorschach (test)
• predation: Darwinian
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: old guard
• product: Frankenstein (product)
• proper name: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: Achilles’ heel (n)
• punishment & recrimination: nemesis (n)
• race: Obama
• resistance, opposition & defeat: Pyrrhic victory
• restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
• reversal: road (road to Damascus)
• ruins: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
• searching & discovery: eureka (eureka moment, etc.), Sherlock Holmes
• sex: Casanova
• situation: Dantesque (adj), frog (frog in boiling water)
• size: behemoth, Brobdingnagian, colossal (adj), gargantuan (size), Goliath (Bible), leviathan, Lilliputian (adj), Olympian (adj), Pharaonic (adj), spartan (adj)
• speech: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), pander (v)
• strength & weakness: Achilles’ heel (n), David and Goliath, etc., Goliath (Bible)
• subterfuge: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Trojan Horse (subterfuge)
• success & failure: Cinderella, Waterloo
• superlative: Homeric (adj), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Promised Land, Shakespearean
• survival, persistence & endurance: Phoenix (myth)
• transmission: Johnny Appleseed
• unanimity & consensus: procrustean (adj)
• violence: Lord of the Flies
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: El Dorado, pander (v)
• warning: cat (bell the cat), wolf (cry wolf)
• worth & lack of worth: fool’s errand

**ALTERNATIVES & CHOICES (1)**
• allusion: Hobson’s choice, Scylla and Charybdis
• boxing: corner (situation)
• corner: corner (situation)
• direction: turn (turn to something, etc.)
• food & drink: buffet (n), menu, smorgasbord (n)
• Iliad & Odyssey: Scylla and Charybdis
• journeys & trips: crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), path (alternatives and choices), road (fork in the road, etc.)
• nuclear energy: option (nuclear option)

**AMELIORATION & RENEWAL (1) (see also resiliency)**
• air: air (breath of fresh air), air (clear the air)
• allusion: panacea (n)
- animal: tame (v)
- atmosphere: air (clear the air), air (breath of fresh air)
- ball: rebound (on the rebound)
- birth: rebirth, reborn, renaissance
- blade: hack (fix), hone (v), sharpen (v)
- boat: bailout (n), bail out (save), damage control, salvage (v), ship (right the ship, etc.)
- breathing: breathing space, etc., life (breathe life)
- bridge: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
- burden: get out (get out from under)
- cloth: iron out (v), patch (amelioration), patched, patchwork (n), untangle (v)
- clothing & accessories: tailor (v)
- creature: exorcise (v)
- death & life: alive (come alive), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), reinvigorate (v), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v)
- destruction: piece (pick up the pieces)
- direction: straighten out (v), turn around (v)
- document: lease (lease on life)
- electricity: battery (recharge one's batteries)
- engine: tune-up (n)
- equilibrium & stability: counterbalance (v), counterbalance (n), right (right a wrong, etc.), stabilize (v)
- explosion: defuse (v)
- face: facelift
- fence: fence (mend fences)
- fire: ashes (from the ashes), burn off (v)
- food & drink: fresh (adj), spice up (v)
- foot: feet (get back on one's feet, etc.)
- fountain: fountain (fountain of youth)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (bring back)
- history: renaissance
- hardness & softness: cushion (v), cushion (n), smooth (v), soften (speech)
- health & medicine: antidote (n), balm (n), Band-Aid (n), bromide (n), cure (n), cure (v), cure-all, disinfectant (n), heal (v), lance (v), panacea (n), pill (miracle pill), prescription, reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), remedy (n), resuscitate (v), salve (n), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), soothe (sensation), surgery (n), tonic (effect)
- house: house (a house in order), house (clean house)
- hygiene: act (clean up one’s act), clean (come clean), clean (v), clean up (improve), disinfectant (n), house (clean house), order (get something in order, etc.)
- infrastructure: bolster (v), bolstered, buttress (v), put (put something back together), prop up, rebuild (v), scaffolding, shore up
- journeys & trips: way (pave the way)
- key: unlock (v)
- knife: hone (v), sharpen (v)
- light & dark: clear up (v), polish (v)
- magic: dust (fairy dust, etc.), magic (magic bullet, etc.)
- mechanism: fix (v), lubricant, mend (on the mend), mend (v), put (put something back together), repair (v), repair (n), tinker (v), tune-up (n), unwind (v), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
- manufacturing: recycle (v), salvage (v)
- military: damage control
- music: fine-tune (v), tune-up (n)
- orientation: right (right a wrong, etc.)
• pressure: decompression, outlet (n), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), vent (v)
• religion: dead (rise from the dead), exorcise (v), ressurrect (v), resurrection (n), wand (magic wand)
• river: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
• rope: straighten out (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.)
• scale: counterbalance (v)
• sea: tide (stem the tide, etc.)
• sensation: soothe (sensation)
• snow & ice: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
• sports & games: playing field (level the playing field)
• swamp: swamp (drain the swamp)
• temperature: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
• tools & technology: calibrate (adjust), plug (v), plugged (fixed), tighten (v), tweak (n)
• verb: act (clean up one’s act), air (clear the air), bail out (save), bailed out, battery (recharge one’s batteries), bolster (v), bridge (v), bring (bring back), burn off (v), buttress (v), calibrate (adjust), clean (v), clean (come clean), clean up (improve), clear up (v), counterbalance (v), cure (v), cushion (v), dead (rise from the dead), defuse (v), exorcise (v), fence (mend fences), fine-tune (v), get out (get out from under), hack (fix), heal (v), hone (v), house (clean house), ice (break the ice), iron out (v), lance (v), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), mend (v), patch (amelioration), piece (pick up the pieces), playing field (level the playing field), plug (v), polish (v), prop up (v), put (put something back together), rebuild (v), recycle (v), reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), repair (v), ressurrect (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), right (right a wrong, etc.), salvage (v), scaffold (v), sharpen (v), ship (right the ship, etc.), shore up (v), smooth (v), soothe (sensation), stabilize (v), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), straighten out (v), swamp (drain the swamp), tame (v), tide (stem the tide, etc.), tighten (v), tinker (v), turn around (v), unlock (v), untangle (v), unwind (v), vent (v), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
• volcano: vent (v)
• water: fountain (fountain of youth), plug (v), plugged (fixed)
• weight: get out (get out from under), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), tailor (v), thaw (v), way (page the way)
• wind: air (breath of fresh air)

**AMOUNT (1) (see also extent & scope)**
• animal: drove (herd or flock), lion’s share
• atmosphere: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
• boat: raft (amount)
• boundary: boundless
• container: bottomless (adj), brim (v), package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
• cloth: shred (shred of hope, etc.)
• clothing & accessories: laundry (laundry list)
• crime: mob (group)
• dam: reservoir (amount)
• direction: bottomless (adj)
• epithet: Saudi Arabia (of coal, etc.)
• family: twin (two)
• fire: backlog (amount), spark (spark of hope, etc.)
• food & drink: crumb (amount), helping (amount), lion’s share, scrap (n), smorgasbord (n), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
• hand: handful (amount)
• health & medicine: dose (amount), rash (affliction)
• infrastructure: suite (n), warehouse (amount)
• knife: slice (piece)
• light & dark: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)
• lion: lion's share
• military: army, arsenal (amount), host (host of questions, etc.), legion (n)
• mountains & hills: mountain (amount)
• money: rich (plentiful), tight (money), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount)
• pile: pile (pile of money, etc.)
• place: Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
• religion: litany (n)
• river: reservoir (amount)
• sea: sea (amount)
• size: grain (grain of truth)
• taste: taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
• theater: repertoire (n)
• verb: brim (v)
• warehouse: warehouse (amount)
• water: aquifer (n), reservoir (amount)
• weapon: arsenal (amount), battery (amount)
• weight: heavy (amount), ounce (amount), pound (amount), ton (amount)

AMOUNT & EFFECT (1)
• air: downdraft, storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
• animal: swarm (v), swarm (n)
• atmosphere: downdraft (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
• avalanche: avalanche (n)
• boat: swamp (v), swamped
• breathing: smother (amount & effect)
• dam: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• earthquake: earthshaking (adj), seismic (adj), tectonic (adj), tremor (n)
• explosion: blockbuster, bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombshell (n)
• fire: conflagration, fire (n), fire (flash fire), firestorm
• flood: deluge (n), deluged, flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flood (amount), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, inundate (v), inundated
• flying & falling: flurry (activity)
• fortification: siege (under siege), siege (other)
• ground, terrain & land: earthshaking (adj), landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other), Niagara (the river and falls)
• health & medicine: epidemic, plague (n), rash (affliction)
• insect: swarm (v), swarm (n)
• landslide: landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other)
• military: barrage (n), besiege (v), besieged, blitz, invade (v), invasion (n), onslaught (n), siege (under siege), siege (other)
• mining: bonanza (n), gold rush
• money: bonanza (n), gold rush
• music: chorus (n), crescendo (n)
• rain: flurry (activity), rain (amount & effect), rain (rain down), shower (v)
• river: flood (amount), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, Niagara (the river and falls), river (amount and effect)
• sea: floodtide, groundswell, maelstrom (in a maelstrom), maelstrom (other), sea change (n), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (rising tide), tide (on a tide), tide (other), tsunami, wave (in a wave), wave (amount and effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
• snow & ice: avalanche (n), blizzard (n), hail (in a hail), hail (n)
• sound: crescendo (n), drip (drip-drip), uproar (controversy)
• storm: blizzard (n), downdraft, hail (n), hail (in a hail), nature (force of nature), storm (v), storm (by storm), storm (perfect storm), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
• tide: floodtide, surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (rising tide), tide (on a tide), tide (other)
• tsunami: tsunami
• verb: besiege (v), bombard (v), erupt (v), flood (amount), gush (v), inundate (v), invade (v), pour (in, into, out, etc.), rain (rain down), shower (v), smoother (amount and effect), spill (amount and effect), storm (v), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swarm (v)
• volcano: erupt (v), eruption, tremor (n)
• water: awash, cascade (n), clogged, deluge (n), deluged, drenched, drip (drip-drop), flood (amount), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), floodtide, floodwaters, gush (v), inundate (v), inundated, Niagara (the river and falls), outpouring, pour (in, into, out, etc.), river (amount and effect), spill (amount and effect), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swamped, tide (rising tide), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount and effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
• wave: groundswell, swamp (v), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (rising tide), tsunami, wave (in a wave)
• weapon: barrage (n), blitz, blockbuster, bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n)
• wind: downdraft, storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)

ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION & EXPLANATION (1) (see also context; picture)
• allusion: Rosetta Stone
• books & reading: misread (v), read (read something in something), read (analyze)
• chemistry: essence
• cloth: pick apart (analyze), tease out (v), unpick (v), untangle (v)
• clothing & accessories: strip (strip something down)
• container: unpack (v)
• day: day (at the end of the day)
• death & life: autopsy (analysis), dissect (v), post-mortem (analysis)
• direction: bottom (get to the bottom of something), drill (analysis)
• engine: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
• eye: look (analysis), microscope (under a microscope)
• food & drink: nutshell (in a nutshell)
• fruits & vegetables: layer (analysis), onion (n), peel (peel back the layers, etc.)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: takeaway (n)
• ground, terrain & land: contour (n), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), drill (drill down, etc.), lay of the land
• head: head (reason)
• health & medicine: diagnosis (n), dissect, misdiagnose (v)
• heating water: boil (boil down to something)
• history: Rosetta Stone
• infrastructure: deconstruct (v), deconstruction (n), frame (characterize)
• journeys & trips: explore (analyze), get (get somewhere), go on (explain)
• letters & characters: spelled out, spell out (v)
• light & dark: illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light (shed light), opacity (n), opaque (adj)
• mechanism: break down (explain), sort out (analyze)
• mining: dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), drill (analysis), layer (analysis)
• number: add up (v), arithmetic, calculus
• picture: dot (connect the dots), mosaic (n), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture), picture (view)
• plant: root (root cause)
• puzzle: fall (fall into place), puzzle (problem), put (put something together), piece (missing pieces), piece together (v)
• religion: soul-searching
• scale: weigh (analyze)
• school & education: study (n)
• sound: chatter (data), din (n), noise (data), signal (other), static (n)
• speech: parse (v), talk (talk somebody through something), tell (data can tell us something, etc.)
• stomach: gut (n)
• surveying: baseline
• temperature: boil (boil down to something)
• tools & technology: black box (n), microscope (under a microscope), signal (other)
• tree: root (root cause)
• verb: boil (boil down to something), break down (explain), chase down (v), deconstruct (v), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dissect (v), dot (connect the dots), drill (analysis), explore (analyze), get (get somewhere), go on (explain), illuminate (v), light (shed light), look (analysis), make (make of something), misdiagnose (v), misread (v), parse (v), peel (peel back the layers, etc.), pick apart (analyze), piece together (v), put (put something together), read (read something in something), read (analyze), spell out (v), strip (strip something down), talk (talk somebody through something), tease out (v), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), unpack (v), unpick (v), untangle (v), walk (walk somebody through something), weigh (analyze)
• walking, running & jumping: chase down (v), walk (walk somebody through something)
• waste: garbage (data)
• water: boil (boil down to something), dive (deep dive)
• weight: weigh (analyze)
• writing & spelling: spelled out, spell out (v)

ANIMAL (2) (see also bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• absorption & immersion: sponge (n)
• activity: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), bristle (v), crawl (activity), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), hornet’s nest, swarm (v), swarm (n)
• accusation & criticism: savage (v), venom (n), venomous (adj)
• affliction: albatross (n), back (off one’s back), dog (afflict), dogged (hounded), eat (destroy), gadfly (person), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), hounded (dogged), leech (person), parasite (n), riddled
• allegiance, support & betrayal: horse (switch horses), rat (snitch), shark (throw someone to the sharks), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
• amelioration & renewal: tame (v)
• amount: drove (herd or flock), lion’s share
• amount & effect: swarm (v), swarm (n)
• appearance: ruffled (feathers)
• appearance & disappearance: ground (go to ground), holed up, woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
• appearance & reality: chameleon (change), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• area: stomping grounds
assembling: round up (assemble)
attenuation: defang (v), tame (adj), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
avoidance & separation: duck (avoid)
behavior: backbiting, bask (v), bloodthirsty, drove (herd or flock), flock (v), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), hog (v), rabid, rapidly, stampede (n), swarm (v), swarm (n), tame (v), vulture (n), wallow (v), wild (people), wolf (animal)
branching system: prong (river)
character & personality: bloodthirsty, creature (creature of habit, etc.), donkey, feisty (adj), gadfly (person), jackass, leech (person), maverick (person), mule-headed, pack rat (person), rogue (n), sheep (black sheep), snake (character), stud (n), whiner (person)
coercion & motivation: dog (attack dog), goad (v), herd (ride herd), pit bull (dog)
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: roar back (v), swan song
commitment & determination: jockey (v), law (law of the jungle, etc.), pack (competition), rat race, underdog (competition)
computer: worm (computers)
concealment & lack of concealment: burrow (burrow into), cat (bell the cat), ground (go to ground), hole (spider hole), holed up, mole (n)
configuration: dovetail (v), nested, sardined
conflict: back (off one’s back), back (get one’s back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v), bear (bear pit), bearbaiting, blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), blood sport (n), dogfight, growl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), head-to-head, horn (lock horns), hornet’s nest, roll over (v), snake pit
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: frog (frog in boiling water)
consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water), sheep
constraint & lack of constraint: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, leash (on a leash), muzzle (v), rein (free rein), wild (run wild)
consumption: lap up (v)
control & lack of control: harness (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), horse (hold your horses), leash (on a leash), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, rogue, runaway, tame (v), tiger (n), wild (control)
courage & lack of courage: chicken-hearted, chicken (chicken out), lion (courage)
creation & transformation: breed (create), breeding ground, spawn (v), spawned, web (spin a web)
danger: hornet’s nest, sitting duck, snake pit
decline: breed (dying breed, etc.), cat (dead-cat bounce)
destruction: carcass (n), devour (destroy), eat (destroy), nibble (destroy), trample (v), trampled
difficulty, easiness & effort: beaver (v), cat (bell the cat)
directing: drive (v), goad (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), husband (v)
diss dismissal, removal & resignation: pasture (put out to pasture), perch (knock something off its perch)
dominance & submission: back down (v), ground (hold / stand one’s ground), lapdog (n), poodle (n), tail (turn tail)
eagerness & reluctance: chops (lick one’s chops), dog (dog won’t hunt), pounce (v)
enthusiasm: bookworm, hound (autograph hound, etc.), pet (pet cause, etc.), rat (lab rat, etc.)
environment: frog (frog in boiling water), hornet’s nest, snake pit, zoo (environment)
evidence: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave), rat (smell a rat)
experience: greenhorn (person)
experimentation: guinea pig
failure, accident & impairment: astray (direction), straw (the last straw), stray (behavior), stray (direction)
fantasy & reality: rabbit hole
fate, fortune & chance: jaw (jaws of defeat, etc.), snake (snake-bit)
• feeling, emotion & effect: bask (v), bristle (v), devoured, eat (destroy), eaten alive, eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), gnaw (v), hackles (raise hackles), ruffled (feathers), venom (n), venomous (adj)
• fictive motion: snake (a trail can snake)
• force: bull (bull in a china shop), defang (n), paper tiger, teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
• group, set & collection: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), pack (group), stable (n), zoo (group)
• growth & development: lamb
• help & assistance: mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, wing (under one’s wing)
• hierarchy: apex ( apex animal, etc.), food chain, pecking order, top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
• idea: sacred cow
• identity & nature: animal (political animal, etc.), creature ( creature of habit, etc.)
• importance & significance: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• insult: animal (insult), dog (insult), beast (insult), donkey, jackass (n), pig (insult)
• involvement: wallow (v), web (entanglement)
• isolation & remoteness: carapace (protection), shell (protection)
• judgment: chicken (come home to roost), kangaroo court
• money: nest egg
• movement: duck (v), fishtail (v), pounce (v), quail (movement), snake (a trail can snake)
• oppression: back (off one’s back), goad (v), kangaroo court, lighten (v), trample (v), yoke (under the yoke), yoke (from the yoke), yoke (other)
• orientation: nose (orientation), tail (orientation)
• past & present: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur, dodo, fossil
• perception: bird’s-eye (bird’s-eye view)
• performance: dog-and-pony show (n)
• person: gadfly (person), greenhorn (person), leech (person), lion (courage), snake (character)
• place: foxhole, hole, (spider hole), nest (mortar nest, etc.), nest (empty nest)
• power: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), oats (feel one’s oats)
• predation: apex ( apex animal, etc.), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), circle (predation), coyote (predation), dog-eat-dog, food chain, hawk (n), hawkish (adj), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), jugular (go for the jugular), law (law of the jungle, etc.), loan shark, lone wolf, lurk (v), lurking, pounce (v), predation, predator (people), predatory (adj), prey (prey on somebody), prey (fall prey to something), prey (other), prowl (on the prowl), shark (predation), stalk (v), tooth and nail (adv), victim (fall victim to something), wolf (predation), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur, dodo, fossil, pasture (put out to pasture), species (vanishing species)
• progress & lack of progress: tail (chase one’s tail)
• proper name: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), Predator (UAV)
• protection & lack of protection: carapace (protection), foxhole, ground (go to ground), holed up, shell (protection), sitting duck, watchdog (n)
• punishment & recrimination: blood (out for blood), doghouse (in the doghouse), scapegoat (n)
• pursuit, capture & escape: dragnet (n), dragnet (cast a dragnet), expedition (fishing expedition), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), ground (go to ground), holed up, land (land a job, etc.), low (lying low), stalk (v)
• relationship: pet (pet cause, etc.)
• resemblance: carcass (n), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), snake (a trail can snake), tail (orientation)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v), buck (v), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one’s ground), howl (v), roll over (v), squeal (protest), stare down (v), stare-down (n), tail (turn tail), tooth and nail (adv)
• restraint & lack of restraint: wild (people), wild (run wild)
• reversal: bite (bite back, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), tail (turn tail)

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 728 of 982
- sacrifice: lamb (sacrificial lamb)
- sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: black sheep, buck (v), maverick (person), sacred cow
- searching & discovery: expedition (fishing expedition), ferret (ferret out)
- sensation: biting, gnaw (v), gnawing
- sex: stud (n)
- shape: dogleg (shape), horn (shape), plume (shape), web (spider web, etc.)
- situation: doghouse (in the doghouse), frog (frog in boiling water), web (situation)
- size: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow, mouse (size)
- society: lone wolf, rogue (n)
- sound: bark (v), gallop (n), growl (v), howl (v), roar (n), snarling (protest), squeal (protest), whining
- speech: badger (v), bark (v), growl (v), howl (v), savage (v), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), venom (n), venomous (adj), whining
- speed: breakneck (adj), galloping, sluggish (adj), snail mail, snail (at a snail’s pace), snail (snail’s pace / other)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: camel (camel’s nose), swan song, tail end (at the tail end)
- strength & weakness: defang (v), eggshell (n), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), lion (strength and weakness), minnow (n), oats (feel one’s oats), paper tiger, teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out) toothless (adj), underdog (competition)
- success & failure: dog (dog won’t hunt)
- superiority & inferiority: underdog (competition)
- surveillance: eagle eye, fly (fly on the wall), watchdog (n)
- suspicion: fishy (adj), rat (smell a rat)
- taxonomy & classification: animal (different animal), beast (different beast, etc.), breed (type), creature (creature of habit, etc.), fish (different kettle of fish), species (type)
- transportation: cart (cart off), drag, haul (v), hauled in, hauled off, mule (drug mule, etc.)
- violence: dove (n), hawk (n), hawkish (adj), termite (n)
- vocative: pet (vocative)
- warning: cat (bell the cat), watchdog (n), wolf (cry wolf)
- wolf: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
- work & duty: beaver (v), rat race
- worth & lack of worth: cow (cash cow), white elephant

**ANTIQUES (2)**
- past & present: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)

**APPEAL (1)**
- military: call (call to arms), cry (rallying cry), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v)
- sound: call (call to arms)
- speech: call (appeal), call for (appeal), cry (cry for help), cry (v), cry out (v), outcry (n), speak (speak to something)
- verb: call for (appeal), cry out (v), speak (speak to something), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v)

**APPEARANCE (1) (see also resemblance)**
- air: air (appearance)
- animal: ruffled (feathers)
- atmosphere: air (appearance), aura (n)
- baby: baby (baby face, etc.)
• bird: ruffled
• books & reading: book (judge a book by its cover)
• cards: poker-faced
• creature: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
• eye: eye (for the eyes), eye (eye candy), eyesore
• face: baby (baby face, etc.), face (appearance), game (game face), poker-faced
• food & drink: feast (feast for the eyes)
• gambling: poker-faced
• infrastructure: street (cloud street, etc.)
• moon: moonscape
• religion: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
• sports & games: game (game face)
• train: bell (bells and whistles)

APPEARANCE & DISAPPEARANCE (1) (see also occurrence; presence & absence; searching & discovery)
• air: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), nowhere (out of nowhere), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
• animal: ground (go to ground), holed up, woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
• atmosphere: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), nowhere (out of nowhere), sky (a clear blue sky)
• baseball: left field (out of left field)
• boat: dredge up (v)
• bodily process: blink (light), swallow (disappearance)
• bubble: bubble up (v)
• color: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• creature: ghost (verb), ghost (ghost ship, etc.), phantom
• death & life: lose (extinction), vanishing (disappearance)
• direction: arise (v), come forward (v), come up (appearance), fall (fall of the radar screen, etc.), pop up (v), turn out (rally), turnout
• eye: peek (v), view (out of view)
• face: face (in the face of)
• farming & agriculture: crop up (v)
• fox: ground (go to ground), holed up
• ground, terrain & land: ground (go to ground), holed up, turn up (appear), uncover (v)
• head: head (rear its head, etc.)
• heating water: bubble up (v)
• house: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
• hunting: ground (go to ground), holed up
• insect: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
• light & dark: fade (v), fade away, light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light)
• lightning: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• military: missing in action (MIA)
• picture: background (fade into the background), foreground (n), foreground (v)
• plant: crop up (v), mushroom (v), pop up (v), spring up (v), sprout (v)
• sky: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), nowhere (out of nowhere), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
• snow & ice: melt away
• sports & games: left field (out of left field)
• temperature: bubble up (v)
• theater: curtain call
• tools & technology: radar (drop off the radar)
• verb: arise (v), background (fade into the background), blink (light), bubble up (v), come forward (v), come up (appearance), crop up (v), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dredge up (v), dry up (v), emerge (v), evaporate (v), fade (v), fade away (v), fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.), ghost (verb), ground (go to ground), head (rear its head, etc.), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light), lose (extinction), melt (v), melt away (v), mushroom (v), pop up (v), radar (drop off the radar), spring up (v), sprout (v), surface (v), surface (bring to the surface), swallow (disappearance), turn out (rally), turn up (appear), uncover (v)
• water: bubble up (v), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dry up (v), emerge (v), emerging (adj), evaporate (v), surface (v), surface (bring to the surface)
• window: window (out the window)

APPEARANCE & REALITY (1) (see also performance; substance & lack of substance; subterfuge)
• allusion: chalice (poisoned chalice)
• animal: chameleon (change), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• clothing & accessories: dressed (dressed up, etc.), dress up (v), naked (unadorned), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• direction: underneath (reality)
• eye: eye (appearance and reality)
• food & drink: chalice (poisoned chalice)
• ground, terrain & land: fool’s gold
• infrastructure: facade (n), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
• magic: magical (versus reality)
• materials & substances: lipstick (appearance), unvarnished (adj), veneer (appearance)
• mining: fool’s gold
• orientation: underbelly, underside (n)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: underneath (reality)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin-deep
• snow & ice: iceberg (tip of the iceberg)
• stomach: underbelly, underside (n)
• theater: theater (appearance), trial (show trial)
• verb: whitewash (v)
• water: surface (on the surface), surface (under the surface)
• wolf: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)

APPLE (2)
• achievement, recognition & praise: apple (Golden Apple)
• character & personality: apple (bad / rotten apple)
• transmission: Johnny Appleseed

AREA (1)
• animal: stomping grounds
• center & periphery: corner (in remote corners, etc.), corner (other)
• corner: corner (in remote corners, etc.)
• direction: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory)
• earth & world: sphere (in the sphere), world (exploration)
• forest: woods (neck of the woods)
• ground, terrain & land: area (territory), contour (n), ecosystem (n), ground (area), landscape (n), lay of the land, terrain (known and unknown terrain), terrain (area), territory (area), territory (assigned area), topography (n), turf (control), wilderness (area)
• journeys & trips: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.), wilderness (area)
• map: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
• royalty: realm (area)
• shape: beak (area), belt (area), corridor (area), horn, neck (area), panhandle (area), triangle (area)
• sea: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)

ARM (2)
• acceptance & rejection: embrace (v), embraced, reach (reach out)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: embrace (v), embraced
• attachment: embrace (v), embraced
• attainment: push (attainment), reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach)
• avoidance & separation: arm's length (at arm's length), push (push somebody away, etc.)
• behavior: overreach (v), pushy (people)
• character & personality: pushy (people)
• coercion & motivation: arm (twist arms, etc.), arm (long arm), arm-twisting, nudge (n), push (coercion and motivation), pushed around, pushy (people)
• commitment & determination: pushing
• configuration: hug (configuration)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: toss back (v)
• constraint & lack of constraint: hold back (obstacle), overreach (v)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: push (summit push, etc.), pushover
• dismissal, removal & resignation: cast aside (v), pushed (pushed out), throw out (v), toss out (v)
• division: arm (arm of an organization)
• division & connection: embrace (v), embraced, reach (reach out)
• extent & scope: arm (long arm), far-reaching, reach (extent and scope), tentacle
• feeling, emotion & effect: hold back (restraint)
• force: elbow (force), push (force)
• importance & significance: arm (right arm)
• obstacles & impedance: hold back (obstacle)
• proper name: elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)
• proximity: reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach), stone's throw
• resistance, opposition & defeat: pushback (n), push back (v)
• restraint & lack of restraint: hold back (restraint), overreach (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: hold down (a job, etc.)
• throwing, putting & planting: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), hurl (v), throw out (v)
• unanimity & consensus: reach (reach out)
• welcome: arm (open arms)

ASSEMBLING (1) (see also group, set & collection)
• animal: round up (assemble)
• military: muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v)
• verb: muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v), round up (assemble)

ASTRONOMY (2) (see also moon; star; sun)
• access & lack of access: black hole
• achievement, recognition & praise: galaxy (n), star (person), star (achievement), supernova (achievement), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: big bang (in a big bang), supernova (attention)
• attraction & repulsion: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something), satellite (n)
• bases: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
• character & personality: eye (stars in the eyes)
• configuration: constellation (n), orbit (n)
• consciousness & awareness: black hole
• decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), star (decline), wane (on the wane), wane (v)
• development: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• direction: lodestar, lodestone
• distance: light year
• division & connection: cusp (on the cusp), orbit (n)
• environment: firmament (n), universe
• extent & scope: light year
• fate, fortune & chance: star (fate)
• group, set & collection: constellation (n), galaxy (n)
• growth & development: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), supernova (achievement)
• importance & significance: planet (n)
• increase & decrease: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• isolation & remoteness: black hole
• person: star (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), outshine (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax (wax and wane), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• proper name: star (Silver Star, etc.)
• proximity: cusp (on the cusp), orbit (n)
• relationship: satellite (n)
• shape: star (shape)
• size: astronomical
• speed: meteoric (adj)
• superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• superlative: star (person), star (achievement), stellar, supernova (achievement)

ATMOSPHERE (2) (see also air; sky; wind)
• activity: whirlwind (n)
• affliction: fallout (effect)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: wind (dangle in the wind)
• amelioration & renewal: air (clear the air), air (breath of fresh air)
• amount: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
• amount & effect: downdraft (n), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
• appearance: air (appearance), aura (n)
• appearance & disappearance: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), nowhere (out of nowhere), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), trial balloon
• behavior: bask (v)
• biodiversity: lung (atmosphere)
• certainty & uncertainty: air (up in the air)
• color: rainbow (color)
• conflict: turbulence
• consciousness & awareness: cloud (consciousness), cloud (v), clouded, cloudy (consciousness), drift (consciousness)
• control & lack of control: drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
• corruption: miasma
• destruction: puncture (v)
• dismissal: wind (throw something to the wind)
• division & connection: drift (drift apart)
• driving force: wind (wind of change, etc.)
• effect: fallout (effect)
• environment: air (environment), air (in the air), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (environment), weather (environment)
• evidence: cloud (sign), glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
• experimentation: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
• extent & scope: sky-high, stratosphere, stratospheric
• fate, fortune & chance: sky (the sky can fall)
• feeling, emotion & effect: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other), air (breath of fresh air), bask (v), cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), deflate (emotion), deflated, fallout (effect), pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
• flaws & lack of flaws: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), tempestuous (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
• identity & nature: air (environment)
• increase & decrease: balloon (v), balloon (n), ballooning, inflate (v), inflated, overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v), stratospheric
• initiation: oxygen (fuel)
• journeys & trips: skyway
• mixture: rainbow (mixture)
• movement: drift (move)
• obstacles & impedance: headwind (n)
• occurrence: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), cloud (cast a cloud)
• origin: air (out of thing air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• presence & absence: vacuum (n), void (n)
• proper name: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
• resemblance: cloud (resemblance)
• searching & discovery: rainbow (searching and discovery)
• size: skyscraper
• sound: drift (sound)
• substance & lack of substance: empty (adj), gas (substance), gravity, air (hot air)

ATTACHMENT (1)
• arm: embrace (v), embraced
• cloth: pin (attach), pinned, pinned (pinned down)
• cooking: bake (attach), baked (baked in / into)
• ground, terrain & land: embedded
• hand: cling (v)
• infrastructure: built in, locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
• materials & substances: adhere (adhere to something), attached (attributed), glued, stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stick (endurance), sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)
• rope: bind (connect), tethered
• tools & technology: riveted
• verb: adhere (adhere to something), bind (connect), cling (v), embrace (v), pin (attach), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something)

**ATTAINMENT (1) (see also possession)**
• arm: push (attainment), reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach)
• boat: sail (sail to victory, etc.)
• finger: finger (slip through one’s fingers)
• hand: empty-handed, finger (slip through one’s fingers), grasp (in one’s grasp), grasp (out of one’s grasp), grasp (attainment), palm (in the palm of one’s hand)
• journeys & trips: get (get somewhere), way (all the way)
• movement: coast (attain), sail (sail to victory, etc.), waltz (attain)
• verb: coast (attain), finger (slip through one’s fingers), get (get somewhere), hit (hit $30, etc.), meet (attain), push (attainment), sail (sail to victory, etc.), waltz (attain)

**ATTEMPT (1)**
• direction: go (go for something), go (have a go at something)
• hand: hand (try one’s hand)
• knife: stab (attempt)
• movement: go (go for something)
• sound: crack (attempt)
• verb: go (have a go at something), hand (try one’s hand)
• weapon: shot (attempt), shot (best shot)

**ATTENTION, SCRUTINY & PROMOTION (1)**
• allusion: Barnum, it (it girl, etc.)
• astronomy: big bang (in a big bang), supernova (attention)
• atmosphere: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), trial balloon
• balloon: trial balloon
• boat: showboat (v)
• circus: Barnum, circus (media circus, etc.)
• container: showcase (v), showcase (n)
• crime: steal (steal the show, etc.)
• direction: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
• ear: ear (have somebody’s ear), ear (attention)
• explosion: blow up (attention / verb), blowup (attention / noun), burst on / onto the scene, etc., explode (onto the scene, etc.)
• eye: eye (public eye), eye (attention), eyeball (attention), eye-catching, focus (v), focus (n), microscope (under a microscope), view (out of view), view (attention)
• film: it (it girl, etc.), marquee (attention)
• finger: point out (v)
• fire: blaze (in a blaze of glory)
• flags & banners: flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
• food & drink: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
• game: ball (related to attention)
• hand: grabbing (attention-grabbing)
• head: head (turn heads)
heating water: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
height: loom (loom large, etc.), low (lying low), profile (low profile), profile (high profile), profile (attention), raise (attention), relief (in bold relief)
hunting: catchy (attention)
letters & characters: exclamation point, full stop, punctuate (v), underline (attention), underscore (attention)
light & dark: blaze (in a blaze of glory), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), glare (attention), highlight (v), light (shine a light), limelit (in the limelight), outshine (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), sunlight (concealment), supernova (attention)
map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
mixture: blend in (v)
money: sell (promote)
music: fanfare (attention)
nose: nose (attention)
object: it (it girl, etc.), thing (fad, etc.), thing (the next big thing)
person: Barnum, cheerleader (person), name-check (v), showman (person), tout (person)
picture: background (fade into the background), foreground (n), foreground (v), photobomb (v)
plane: barnstorm (v)
radio: tuned (stay tuned)
rocket: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
royalty: herald (v), herald (n)
school & education: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
shadow: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
sign, signal, symbol: marquee (attention)
sky: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
sound: bang (with a bang), big bang (in a big bang), blaring ( headlines, etc.), buzz (attention), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, drum up (v), teapot (internet teapot, etc.), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v)
speech: pitch (promote)
sports & games: ball (take one’s eye off the ball)
standing, sitting & lying: stand out (attention), standout (n)
star: supernova (attention)
storm: thunder (steal thunder, etc.), thunderclap
teater: backstage (adj), downplay (v), limelit (in the limelight), photobomb (v), platform (n), play down (v), show (steal the show), showman (person), stage (center stage), stage (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), upstage (v)
tools & technology: lens (other), magnifying glass (under a magnifying glass), microscope (under a microscope), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen)
verb: background (fade into the background), ball (take one’s eye off the ball), barnstorm (v), blend in (v), blow up (attention / verb), burst on / onto the scene, etc., cheerlead (v), downplay (v), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, drum up (v), eclipse (v), explode (onto the scene, etc.), focus (v), herald (v), herald (n), highlight (v), light (shine a light), loom (loom large, etc.), name-check (v), overshadow (v), photobomb (v), pitch (promote), play down (v), point out (v), punctuate (v), radar (drop off the radar), raise (attention), sell (promote), show (steal the show), showboat (v), showcase (v), skyrocket (to attention, etc.), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), stand out (attention), steal (the steal the show, etc.), tout (v), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v), tuned (stay tuned), underline (attention), underscore (attention), upstage (verb)
water: splash (effect)
ATTENUATION (1) (see also force; protection & lack of protection; strength & weakness)

- air: deflate (pressure)
- animal: defang (v), tame (adj), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- center & periphery: marginalized
- hardness & softness: soften (v)
- health & medicine: atrophy (v), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj)
- light & dark: shadow (devitalized), tarnish (v), tarnished
- pressure: deflate (pressure)
- shadow: shadow (devitalized)
- skin, muscle & bone: atrophy (v)
- snake: defang (v)
- speech: tone down (v)
- teeth: teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
- theater: play down
- verb: dampen (v), defang (v), deflate (pressure), play down (v), soften (v), tarnish (v), teeth (take the teeth out), tone down (v), water down (v)
- walking, running & jumping: lame (lame excuse, etc.)
- water: dampen (v), diluted (water), drained (attenuation), water down (v), watered down

ATTRACTION & REPULSION (1) (see also acceptance & rejection; avoidance & separation; division & connection; inclusion & exclusion)

- allusion: pied piper, siren (siren call / song), siren (other)
- astronomy: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something), satellite (n)
- chemistry: valence (attraction)
- crashes & collisions: hit (hit it off)
- electricity: lightning rod
- epithet: pied piper
- fire: flame (attraction), moth (attraction)
- fish: bait (n), lure (n), lure (v)
- food & drink: marmite (n)
- hunting: bait (n), lure (n), lure (v)
- Iliad & Odyssey: siren (siren call), siren (other)
- light & dark: flame (attraction), moth (attraction)
- lightning: lightning rod
- love, courtship & marriage: court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), embrace (v), embraced, flirt (v), seduced, swoon (v), woo (v), wooed
- magic: charm (v), charm (n), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), charming (people), pied piper, spell (under a spell)
- place: mecca, pilgrimage (trip)
- religion: charisma (attraction), mecca, pilgrimage (trip)
- sea: pull (tidal pull)
- sex: alluring (adj), seductive (adj)
- speech: invite (v), invitation (n), inviting
- taste: juicy
- tide: pull (tidal pull)
- tools & technology: magnet (attraction), magnetic (adj) recoil (v)
• verb: charm (v), court (v), draw (attract), flirt (v), hit (hit it off), invite (v), lure (v), recoil (v), revolve (revolve around something), swoon (v), woo (v)

AVALANCHE (2)
• amount & effect: avalanche (n)

AVOIDANCE & SEPARATION (1) (see also action, inaction & delay; attraction & repulsion; confronting, dealing with & ignoring things; division & connection; eagerness & reluctance; reconciliation, resolution & conclusion; responsibility)
• animal: duck (avoid)
• arm: arm’s length (at arm’s length), push (push somebody away, etc.)
• bird: duck (avoid)
• boat: steer (steer clear of something)
• clothing & accessories: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
• direction: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v)
• distance: arm’s length (at arm’s length)
• dog: bay (at bay)
• electricity: insulated
• football: end run (n)
• hand: hands-on, hands-off
• health & medicine: allergic (adj), allergy (n), quarantine (v)
• horse: shy (shy away)
• insect: cocoon (isolation)
• mechanism: steer (steer clear of something)
• movement: bypass (v), end run (n), go around, sidestep (v)
• nuclear energy: radioactive (adj)
• person: hermit (person)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: apart (division)
• proximity: distance (v)
• religion: cloistered
• sports & games: end run (n)
• verb: back away (v), bypass (v), dodge (v), duck (avoid), flee (v), go around (v), pull back (v), push (push somebody away, etc.), quarantine (v), run (run away), shy (shy away), sidestep (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), steer (steer clear of something), step (step back from something), walk (walk away from something)
• walking, running & jumping: back away (v), bypass (v), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), end run (n), flee (v), go around (v), run (run away), sidestep (v), step (step back from something), walk (walk away from something)

AX (2) (see also blade; knife; sword; weapon)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: ax (n), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (n), cut (v), slash (v), slash-and-burn (adj), trim (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other)
• punishment & recrimination: ax (ax to grind)

BABY (2) (see also birth)
• age: baby (younger), young (adj)
• appearance: baby (baby face, etc.)
• behavior: crybaby (person)
• creation & transformation: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
dependency: babysitter (role), nanny (person), wean (v)

destruction: cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)

enthusiasm: baby (relationship)

failure, accident & impairment: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)

feeling, emotion & effect: baby (relationship)

growth & development: infancy (in infancy), infant (n), nascent (beginning), newborn, nourished, nurture (v), nurtured, stillborn, teething, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.), young (adj)

person: babysitter (role), crybaby (person)

progress & lack of progress: step (baby steps, etc.)

relationship: baby (relationship)

starting, going, continuing & ending: abort (v)

success & failure: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)

vocative: baby (vocative)

BACK (2)

acceptance & rejection: back (turn one’s back)

achievement, recognition & praise: back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun)

affliction: back (off one’s back)

allegiance, support & betrayal: back (v), back (behind somebody’s back), backed, backing (support)

bases: backbone (basis), spine (branching)

behavior: backbiting

branching system: backbone (branching system), spine (branching)

conflict: back (off one’s back), back (get one’s back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v)

courage & lack of courage: backbone (courage), spine (courage)

destruction: back (break the back)

difficulty, easiness & effort: back (carry something on one’s back), backbreaking

dominance & submission: back down (v)

proper name: backbone (Devil’s Backbone, etc.)

protection & lack of protection: back (vulnerability, attack)

resistance, opposition & defeat: back (back to the wall), back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v)

social interaction: back (scratch somebody’s back)

strength & weakness: backbone (courage), spine (courage)

subterfuge: back (behind somebody’s back)

survival, persistence & endurance: back (back to the wall)

BALL (2)

action, inaction & delay: ball (ball in somebody’s court)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: rebound (rebound headache, etc.)

confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ball (ball in somebody’s court)

failure & accident: ball (drop the ball), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled

flaws & lack of flaws: roll (on a roll)

increase & decrease: rebound (v)

movement: bounce (v), ping-pong (v), ping-pong (n), roll (move), roll in (v), rolling (moving)

position, policy & negotiation: ball (ball in somebody’s court)

progress & lack of progress: roll (on a roll)

resiliency: bounce back (v), rebound (v), rebound (on the rebound)

social interaction: ball (ball in somebody’s court)

starting, going, continuing & ending: ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), roll (on a roll), roll (v)
BALLOON (2)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: trial balloon
- experimentation: float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
- increase & decrease: balloon (v), balloon (n), ballooning, inflate (v), inflated

BASES (1) (see also achievement, recognition & praise; importance & significance; priority; superlative)
- astronomy: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- back: backbone (basis), spine (branching)
- blood: lifeblood
- boat: anchor, boat (boat of science, etc.), mainstay, ship (ship of state, etc.)
- center & periphery: core (basis)
- chemistry: essence
- death & life: lifeblood
- direction: behind (basis), bottom (get to the bottom of something), underlie, underlying
- food & drink: behind (basis)
- ground, terrain & land: bedrock (n), footing (solid footing, etc.), footing (find one’s footing, etc.), grassroots, ground (prepare the ground), groundwork, rock (support)
- heart: heart (basis)
- heating water: boil (boil down to something)
- house: edifice (n), foundation
- infrastructure: building block, cornerstone, infrastructure (n), keystone, pillar (basis), plank (n), plumbing (n)
- materials & substances: rock (support)
- mechanism: kingpin, linchpin, nuts and bolts
- movement: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
- plant: deep-rooted (adj), root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.), rooted
- position: behind (basis)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: behind (basis)
- religion: mythology (n)
- shoulder: shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
- sign, signal, symbol: ship (ship of state, etc.)
- stomach: guts (insides)
- temperature: boil (boil down to something)
- tree: root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.), rooted
- verb: boil (boil down to something), ground (prepare the ground), revolve (revolve around something), shoulder (stand on somebody’s shoulders), underlie (v)
- water: boil (boil down to something)

BASEBALL (2) (see also basketball; boxing; cards; chess; gambling; sports & games; wrestling)
- appearance & disappearance: left field (out of left field)
- commitment & determination: home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
- development: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: strike out (v)
- judgment: call (close call), call (the right call)
- position, policy & negotiation: hardball (n)
- punishment & recrimination: one-strike-and-you're-out
- responsibility: plate (step up to the plate)
• success & failure: grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), strike out (v)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)

**BASKETBALL (2) (see also baseball; boxing; cards; chess; gambling; sports & games; wrestling)**
- ability & lack of ability: Michael Jordan (epithet)
- certainty & uncertainty: slam-dunk
- commitment & determination: full-court press
- difficulty, easiness & effort: full-court press, slam-dunk
- epithet: Michael Jordan (epithet)
- superlative: Michael Jordan (epithet)

**BEDROOM (2)**
- sex: bedroom (sex)

**BEHAVIOR (1) (see also character & personality; identity & nature) (see also constraint & lack of constraint; control & lack of control; restraint & lack of restraint)**
- activity: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
- addiction: addictive (adj)
- alcohol: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), inebriate (v)
- allusion: Lord of the Flies
- animal: backbiting, bask (v), bloodthirsty, drove (herd or flock), flock (v), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), hog (v), rabid, rabidly, stampede (n), swarm (v), swarm (n), tame (v), vulture (n), wallow (v), wild (people), wolf (predation)
- arm: overreach (v), pushy (people)
- atmosphere: bask (v)
- baby: crybaby (person)
- back: backbiting
- bird: flock (v), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), vulture
- blade: cutthroat
- blood: bloodthirsty
- boat: overboard (behavior), showboat (v)
- boundary: bound (n), boundary (behavior), guardrail (behavior), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (out of line), line (over the line), line (cross the line), line (red line), overreach (v), overstep (v)
- boxing: belt (below the belt)
- cards: wild card (people)
- circus: clown (v)
- control & lack of control: control (behavior)
- creature: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), zombie (behavior)
- crime: mob (group)
- direction: above (above the fray, etc.), aboveboard, beneath (that's beneath you, etc.), descend (v), fall down (v), fray (above the fray), go (behavior), ground (high ground), gutter (in the gutter), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), rise (rise above something), road (the high road), sink (behavior), standard (higher standard), stoop (behavior), straight (the straight and narrow), straight arrow (person), stray (behavior)
- distance: far (too far), length (go to any lengths, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
- dog: rabid, rabidly
- explosion: self-destructive (adj)
- family: child (spoiled child)
• food & drink: wolf (wolf down food)
• fruits & vegetables: nuts (crazy)
• government: diplomacy, diplomatic
• ground, terrain & land: edge (over the edge), ground (high ground), mud (in the mud)
• head: hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
• health & medicine: addictive (adj), delirious (adj), delirium (n), demented, fever (behavior), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), rabid, rabidly
• height: rise (rise above something), road (the high road)
• history: barbaric (behavior), cowboy (person), wild West
• hunting: hotshot (n)
• hygiene: act (clean up one's act), dirty (behavior)
• infrastructure: gutter (in the gutter), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
• insect: descend (descend on), swarm (v), swarm (n)
• knife: backstabber, backstabbing, cutthroat
• line: line (out of line), line (over the line), line (cross the line), line (red line)
• love, courtship & marriage: infidelity (n)
• manufacturing: mold (n)
• materials & substances: brazen (adj)
• mental health: amok (run amok), bedlam, berserk, craze, crazed, crazy (behavior), crazy (enthusiasm), demented, frenzied (adj), frenzy, nuts (crazy)
• mining: gold-digging
• mountains & hills: edge (over the edge)
• movement: go (behavior), wall (ricochet off the wall)
• person: cannon (loose cannon), child (spoiled child), choirboy (behavior), hothead (person), hotshot (n), straight arrow (person)
• plane: autopilot (on autopilot)
• predation: backbiting, bloodthirsty, frenzy (feeding frenzy)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: below (behavior), beneath (behavior)
• religion: choirboy (behavior), halo (n), hell (raise hell), hell-raiser, hell-raising, ritual, saint (superlative)
• sheep: flock (v)
• sports & games: cheap shot, free-for-all (control)
• temperature: bask (v), hothead (person)
• theater: dramatic (dramatic child, etc.)
• tools & technology: compass (moral compass)
• train: rail (off the rails)
• verb: act (clean up one’s act), bask (v), clown (v), descend (v), end (go off the deep end), fall down (v), flock (v), go (behavior), hell (raise hell), hog (v), inebriate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (cross the line), overreach (v), overstep (v), rise (rise above something), showboat (v), sink (behavior), stoop (behavior), stop (stop at nothing), stray (behavior), swarm (v), tame (v), wall (ricochet off the wall), wallow (v)
• vulture: vulture (n)
• walking, running & jumping: overstep (v)
• water: end (go off the deep end)
• weapon: cannon (loose cannon), hotshot (n)
• wolf: rabid, rabidly, wolf (predation)

BELL (2)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ring in (the New Year, etc.)
• reversal: bell (unring a bell)
• shape: bell curve (shape)
• sound: ring out (a shot rang out, etc.)
• starting, stopping & continuing: bell (unring a bell), ring in (the New Year, etc.)
• warning: bell (alarm bell, etc.)

**BIBLE (2) (see also religion)**
• accusation & criticism: jeremiad (bitter lament)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: road (road to Damascus)
• biodiversity: Noah's Ark
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: exodus (n)
• consciousness & awareness: road (road to Damascus)
• creation & transformation: road (road to Damascus)
• destruction: Armageddon, kiss of death
• environment: Garden of Eden, Promised Land
• fate, fortune & chance: handwriting (on the wall), kiss of death, writing (writing on the wall)
• flaws & lack of flaws: Garden of Eden
• judgment: Solomonic (adj)
• message: gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), jeremiad (bitter lament), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message)
• revenge: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
• reversal: road (road to Damascus)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: Bible (authority)
• size: behemoth, Goliath (Bible), leviathan (n)
• strength & weakness: David and Goliath, etc., Goliath (Bible)
• superlative: Promised Land
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail)

**BIODIVERSITY (1)**
• allusion: Noah’s Ark
• atmosphere: lung (atmosphere)
• breathing: lung (atmosphere)
• Bible: Noah’s Ark
• epithet: Amazon (epithet), Galapagos (epithet), lung (atmosphere), mother (Mother Nature), Noah’s Ark, rainforest (epithet), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
• ground, terrain & land: biodiversity (n)
• lung: lung (atmosphere)
• place: Amazon (epithet), Galapagos (epithet), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
• religion: Noah’s Ark

**BIOLOGY (2)**
• growth & development: embryonic, petri dish
• identity & nature: DNA (in the DNA), DNA (other), gene (in one’s genes)

**BIRD (2) (see also animal; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)**
• activity: fly (activity), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
• affliction: albatross (n)
• appearance: ruffled
• avoidance & separation: duck (avoid)
• behavior: flock (v), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), vulture
• branching system: wing (building)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: swan song
• configuration: dovetail (v), nested, perch (v)
• constraint & lack of constraint: fly (constraint), wing (clip / stretch one's wings)
• courage & lack of courage: chicken-hearted, chicken (chicken out)
• danger: sitting duck
• dismissal, removal & resignation: perch (knock something off its perch)
• division: wing (division)
• environment: incubator
• evidence: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
• extent & scope: full-fledged (adj)
• feeling, emotion & effect: eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), ruffled (feathers)
• group, set & collection: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
• growth & development: fledgling, full-fledged (adj), incubator
• haste: fly (on the fly)
• heart: chicken-hearted
• help & assistance: mother hen, wing (under one's wing)
• hierarchy: pecking order
• initiation: hatch (v), hatched
• isolation & remoteness: cooped up
• judgment: chicken (come home to roost)
• mixture: cocktail
• money: nest egg
• movement: duck (v), quail (movement)
• perception, perspective & point of view: bird's eye (bird's-eye view)
• place: nest (mortar nest, etc.), nest (empty nest)
• predation: hawk (n), hawkish (adj)
• proper name: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: sitting duck
• relationship: chicken (chicken and egg)
• repetition: parrot (v)
• resemblance: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: face (fly in the face)
• reversal: chicken (come home to roost)
• sex: bird (the birds and the bees)
• shape: beak (area), plume (shape)
• speech: crow (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: swan song
• strength & weakness: eggshell (n)
• surveillance: eagle eye
• violence: dove (n), hawk (n), hawkish (adj)

BIRTH (2) (see also baby)
• amelioration & renewal: rebirth, reborn, renaissance
• creation & transformation: birth (creation), birthday (creation), birthed (created), born (creation), born-on (adj), germinate (v), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), labor pains, midwife, spawn (v), stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• failure, accident & impairment: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
• growth & development: embryonic, gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), nascent (beginning), renaissance, stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• identity & nature: born (born teacher, etc.)
• origin: birthplace, cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
• success & failure: birth, stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.)

BLADE (2) (see also ax; knife; sword; weapon)
• ability & lack of ability: edge (lose one’s edge)
• accusation & criticism: hatchet job (n)
• affliction: cut (a thousand cuts)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: cutthroat
• amelioration & renewal: hack (fix), hone (v), sharpen (v)
• behavior: cutthroat
• coercion & motivation: hatchet man (person)
• competition: cutthroat
• computer: hack (get into), hack (fix), scrape (v)
• conflict: stab (v)
• condition & status: honed, sharp
• creation & transformation: carved out, carve out (v)
• curtailment: cut off (v)
• danger: call (close call / danger), shave (close shave)
• decline: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• destruction: dagger, heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: ax (n), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (n), cut (v), cut off (v), scrape (v), shave (removal), slash (v), trim (v), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• driving force: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
• fate, fortune & chance: call (close call / danger), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), shave (removal), sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
• feeling, emotion & effect: cut (cut both ways), dagger, double-edged (sword), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
• flaws & lack of flaws: dull (adj), edge (lose one’s edge)
• functioning: honed, sharp (adj)
• increase & decrease: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
• protection & lack of protection: hack (get into)
• proximity: edge (at the edge)
• punishment & recrimination: ax (ax to grind)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
• resemblance: slice (v)
• shape: knife-edged, sickle (shape)
• speech: blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
• survival, persistence & endurance: scrape by (v)
• taking & removing: chip away (v)
• verb: hack (get inside)

BLANKET (2)
• configuration: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed
• cover: blanket (v), blanket (cover), blanketed
• extent & scope: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)

BLOOD (2)
• bases: lifeblood
• behavior: bloodthirsty
• branching system: artery, system (circulatory system)
• character & personality: bloodthirsty
• condition & status: pulse (n)
• conflict: blood (bad blood), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), bloodbath, blood sport (n)
• death & life: blood (blood represents life)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: blood (effort)
• experience: blood (young blood, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: blood (blood runs cold), blood (in cold blood), livid (adj), mist (red mist), vein (ice in one’s veins)
• guilt: blood (blood on one's hands, etc.), bloody (guilt), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
• identity & nature: blood (in one's blood), vein (tap a vein)
• involvement: blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
• journeys & trips: artery
• leaking: bleed (v), bleed (n), bleeding, hemorrhage (n)
• measurement: pulse (n)
• predation: blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood)
• punishment & recrimination: blood (out for blood)
• violence: bloodbath, mist (red mist)

BOAT (2)
• accusation & criticism: broadside (n)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: board (on board), mutinous (adj), mutiny (n), ship (abandon / jump ship)
• amelioration & renewal: bailout (n), bail out (save), damage control, salvage (v), ship (right the ship, etc.)
• amount: raft (amount)
• amount & effect: swamp (v), swamped
• appearance & disappearance: dredge up (v)
• attainment: sail (sail to victory, etc.)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: showboat (v)
• avoidance & separation: steer (steer clear of something)
• bases: anchor, boat (boat of science, etc.), mainstay, ship (ship of state, etc.)
• behavior: overboard (behavior), showboat (v)
• character & personality: showboat (v)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: ship (abandon / jump ship)
• computer: navigation (cyberspace)
• concealment & lack of concealment: dredge up (v)
• conflict: shot (shot across the bow)
• constraint & lack of constraint: leeway (n)
• control & lack of control: adrift, drift (control), helm (at the helm), helm (other), rudderless, ship (tight ship, etc.)
• danger: lighthouse, rock (on the rocks), shoal (n), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
• destruction: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scuttle (v), scuttled, shipwreck (n), shoal (n), sink (destroy), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: sail (sail to victory, etc.), sailing (smooth sailing)
• directing: pilot (v), steward (role)
• direction: adrift, chart (v), lighthouse, navigate (v), navigation, rudderless, sea (at sea), tack (v), tack (n)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: jettison (v), jettisoned
• disruption: boat (rock the boat)
• division & connection: drift (drift apart)
• empathy & lack of empathy: boat (in the same boat)
• epithet: ship (ship of state, etc.), ship (ship of the desert)
• equilibrium & stability: boat (rock the boat), keel (even keel), ship (right the ship, etc.)
• experience: rope (learn the ropes, etc.), salt (sailor), wheelhouse (n)
• extent & scope: stem (from stem to stern)
• failure, accident & impairment: aground (run aground), founder (v), rock (on the rocks), shipwreck (n), shoal (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: stack (blow one’s stack)
• help & assistance: steward (role)
• interest: wheelhouse (n)
• knowledge & intelligence: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
• obstacles & impedance: headwind (n), shoal (n)
• person: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
• progress & lack of progress: adrift, doldrums (n), headway (n), moored
• protection & lack of protection: batten (batten down), harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor), haven (safety), lighthouse
• pursuit, capture & escape: trawl (v)
• readiness & preparedness: batten (batten down)
• representation: figurehead (n)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: mutinous (adj), mutiny (n)
• restraint & lack of restraint: overboard (behavior)
• reversal: row (row back)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: boat (rock the boat)
• searching & discovery: dredge up (v), trawl (v)
• sequence: wake (in the wake)
• situation: boat (in the same boat)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: embark (embark on something), underway
• superlative: flagship (superlative)
• survival, persistence & endurance: bailout (n), bail out (save), bailed out, batten (batten down), hand (all hands on deck), ride out (v)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: ship (ship has sailed, etc.)
• transportation: ship (ship of the desert)
• unanimity & consensus: board (on board), boat (in the same boat), boat (rock the boat), row (row in the same direction, etc.)
• warning: shot (shot over the bow, etc.)

BODILY PROCESS (2) (see also breathing; gesture)
• acceptance & rejection: retch (v)
• affliction: choke (v)
• appearance & disappearance: blink (light), swallow (disappearance)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: flinch (v)
• courage & lack of courage: flinch (v)
• creation & transformation: spit out (v)
• danger: sigh (sigh of relief)
• eagerness & reluctance: drool (v), mouthwatering (adj), salivate (v)
• extent & scope: yawning (adj)
• failure, accident & impairment: hiccup (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: breath (take one’s breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), eye-roll (dismissal), gasp (very “gasp,” etc.), goosebumps, retch (v), sigh (sigh of relief), sweat (feeling), teeth (gnash one’s teeth), yawn (n)
• flaws & lack of flaws: hiccup (n)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: cough up (v)
• hyperbole: retch (v)
• place: bowel (n)
• relationship: sneeze (v)
• resemblance: belch (v), bowel (n), breathe (v), spit (spit down), spit (v), yawn (v)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: gasp (last gasp)
• revenge: laugh (last laugh)
• speech: spew (vomit)
• throwing, putting & planting: spew (vomit)
• transmission: sneeze (v)

BODY (2)
• ability & lack of ability: agile (adj), agility (n), clumsy (adj), fit (adj), fitness (ability), nimble
• government: body politic
• possession: lap (possession)
• responsibility: lap (in the lap of)
• situation: lap (lap of luxury)
• society: body politic

BOOKS & READING (2) (see also letters & characters; writing & spelling)
• ability & lack of ability: illiterate (adj)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: misread (v), read (read something in something), read (analyze)
• appearance: book (judge a book by its cover)
• certainty & uncertainty: open-and-shut (adj)
• character & personality: book (open book), book (by the book)
• constraint & lack of constraint: book (by the book)
• creation & transformation: author (person)
• curtailment: book (close the book)
• development: book (close the book), book (development), chapter, page (development)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: shelve (v)
• enthusiasm: bookworm
• experience: story (war story)
• fictive communication: read (a sign can read something)
• flaws & lack of flaws: storybook
• judgment: book (judge a book by its cover)
• knowledge & intelligence: encyclopedia (n), encyclopedic (adj)
• person: author (person)
• punishment & recrimination: book (throw the book at somebody)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: book (close the book)
• resemblance: fairy tale, story (horror story), storybook
• script: playbook
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: book (open book)
• superlative: storybook
• unanimity & consensus: page (on the same page)
**BOTTLE (2)**
- access & lack of access: bottle up (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bottle up (v)
- initiation: uncork (v)
- obstacles & impedance: bottleneck

**BOUNDARY (2) (see also line)**
- amount: boundless
- behavior: bound (n), boundary (behavior), guardrail (behavior), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (out of line), line (over the line), line (cross the line), line (red line), overreach (v), overstep (v)
- configuration: bounded
- constraint & lack of constraint: limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overstep (v)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: limits (push something to its limits)
- division & connection: boundary (division), line (n), line (division), line (categories)
- extent & scope: boundless
- fate, fortune & chance: line (tread a line, etc.)
- possession: claim (stake a claim)
- proximity: border (proximity)
- restraint & lack of restraint: limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overstep (v)
- survival, persistence & endurance: limits (push something to its limits)

**BOXING (2) (see also baseball; basketball; cards; chess; gambling; sports & games; wrestling)**
- ability & lack of ability: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
- accusation & criticism: come (come out swinging), jab (n), pummel (v)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: corner (in one's corner)
- alternatives & choices: corner (situation)
- behavior: belt (below the belt)
- conflict: bare-knuckled (adj), brawl (n), come (come out swinging), glove (the gloves are off), hitter (heavy hitter), jab (n), spar (v), square off (v), swing (take a swing), slug (slug something out), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), uppercutting
- constraint & lack of constraint: box (box somebody into a corner)
- development: round (boxing)
- effect: punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
- epithet: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
- feeling, emotion & effect: blow (body blow), punch (effect)
- help & assistance: sparring partner (role)
- hitting, slamming & lashing: knock out (v), knockout (n), pummel (v), pummeled, punch (force)
- involvement: weigh in (v)
- power: heavyweight (n), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
- readiness & preparedness: punch (beat somebody to the punch)
- resiliency: punch (roll with the punches)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: Muhammad Ali (epithet), punch (punch back), towel (throw in the towel)
- restraint & lack of restraint: belt (below the belt), glove (the gloves are off), punch (pull a punch)
- sequence: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), punch (beat somebody to the punch)
- speech: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), come (come out swinging), jab (n), punch (pull a punch)
- strength & weakness: glass jaw
• substance & lack of substance: heavyweight (n), lightweight (n), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• subterfuge: punch (sucker punch / verb)
• superlative: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• survival, persistence & endurance: punch (roll with the punches), rope (on the ropes)
• violence: bare-knuckled (adj), glove (the gloves are off)

**BRANCHING SYSTEM (1)**

- animal: prong (river)
- back: backbone (branching system), spine (branching)
- bird: wing (building)
- blood: artery, system (circulatory system)
- family: family tree
- horn: multipronged
- mechanism: hub (branching system)
- plant: offshoot, tendril (growth)
- river: confluence, feed (feed into), prong (river), stream (bloodstream, etc.), tributary (n)
- tree: branch (taxonomy), branch out (v), family tree, trunk (branching system)
- verb: feed (feed into)
- water: stream (bloodstream, etc.)

**BREADTH (2)**

- mind: narrow-minded (adj), narrowness (n)
- size: narrow (breadth), razor (razor-thin), thin (breadth)
- situation: strait (dire straits, etc.)

**BREAKING (2)**

- destruction: tear apart (v), tear up (v)

**BREATHING (2) (see also bodily process; gesture)**

- absorption & immersion: inhale (v)
- affliction: choke (v)
- amelioration & renewal: breathing space, etc.), life (breathe life)
- amount & effect: smother (amount & effect)
- biodiversity: lung (atmosphere)
- condition & status: wheezing (condition)
- consumption: breathe (consume), inhale (v)
- cover: smother (cover)
- danger: sigh (sigh of relief)
- destruction: strangled, strangulation
- dismissal, removal & resignation: blow off (v)
- fate, fortune & chance: breath (hold one's breath)
- feeling, emotion & effect: breath (take one’s breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), gasp (very “gasp,” etc.), sigh (sigh of relief), suffocating
- obstacles & impedance: choked, chokepoint
- oppression: smother (oppress), stifling (adj), strangle (v), strangled, stranglehold, strangulation, strangled, suffocate (v), suffocated, suffocating
- resistance, opposition & defeat: gasp (last gasp)
- success & failure: choke (fail)

**BRIDGE (2)**

- amelioration & renewal: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
• confronting, dealing with & avoiding things: bridge (cross that bridge)
• division & connection: bridge (n), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone
• past & present: bridge (water under the bridge)
• presence & absence: bridgehead (n)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bridge (water under the bridge)
• route: bridge (air bridge, etc.)
• survival, persistence & endurance: bridgehead (n)
• timeliness & lack of timelessness: bridge (cross that bridge)
• transportation: bridge (air bridge, etc.)

**BUBBLE (2)**
• activity: bubble (v), bubble (n), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
• appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v)
• initiation: bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
• isolation & remoteness: bubble (isolation)
• substance & lack of substance: bubble (n)

**BULLET (2)**
• allegiance, support & betrayal: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
• commitment & determination: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
• fate, fortune & chance: bullet (dodge a bullet)
• flaws & lack of flaws: bulletproof (adj)
• shape: bullet (shape)
• speed: bullet (velocity)

**BURDEN (2) (see also weight)**
• affliction: bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), heavy (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: pull (pull for someone)
• amelioration & renewal: get out (get out from under)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: back (carry something on one’s back), drag (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: pull out (v)
• eagerness & reluctance: drag (drag somebody into something)
• failure, accident & impairment: strain (v)
• feeling, emotion & effect: straw (the last straw)
• history: baggage, freighted
• involvement: drag (drag somebody into something)
• obstacles & impedance: drag (drag on the economy, etc.)
• oppression: bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burden (n), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
• resiliency: carry on (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: carry on (v), drag (drag on / out / through), pull out (v)
• survival, persistence & endurance: carry on (v)
• time: drag (drag on / out / through), haul (for the long haul)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: drag (drag on / out / through)
• unanimity & consensus: pull (pull together)
• work & duty: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), pull (pull together), strain (v), weight (pull one's weight)
BURIAL (2)
• absorption & immersion: bury (immerse)
• concealment & lack of concealment: bury (conceal)
• decline: knell (death knell)
• destruction: coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (destruction), knell (death knell)
• euphemism: place (resting place)
• fate, fortune & chance: coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one’s grave)
• feeling, emotion & effect: pall (cast a pall)
• involvement: buried (buried in debt, etc.)
• oppression: pall (cast a pall)
• place: grave (place), graveyard (place), place (resting place)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: knell (death knell)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: ghost (bury the ghost), put (put something to rest)
• searching & discovery: exhume (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: knell (death knell)

CAMPAIGN (1)
• Middle Ages: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
• military: blitz (n)
• person: crusader (role)
• religion: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
• sound: drum (beat / bang the drum)
• weapon: blitz

CANAL (1)
• allusion: Venice (epithet)
• epithet: Venice (epithet)
• place: Venice (epithet)

CANAL (2)
• shape: canal (birth canal, etc.)

CARDS (2) (see also baseball; basketball; boxing; chess; gambling; sports & games; wrestling)
• appearance: poker-faced
• behavior: wild card (people)
• character & personality: card (hold one’s cards close), wild card (people)
• commitment & determination: double down (v)
• computer: wildcard (computers)
• concealment & lack of concealment: card (cards on the table), hold (close hold, etc.), tip (tip one’s hand), vest (play something close to the vest)
• curtailment: fold (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: discard (v), fold (v)
• disruption: deck (re-shuffle the deck)
• failure, accident & impairment: overplay (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), draw (luck of the draw), hand (dealt a hand)
• feeling, emotion & effect: poker-faced
• position, policy & negotiation: bluff (n)
• power: hand (strengthen one’s hand)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: fold (v)
• restraint & lack of restraint: hand (overplay one’s hand)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: card (cards on the table)
• strategy: bluff (n), card (guilt card, etc.), card (play one’s cards), move (chess move, etc.), poker (game)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: fold (v)
• strength & weakness: ace (n), bluff (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
• substance & lack of substance: house of cards
• subterfuge: aboveboard, bluff (n)
• success & failure: hand (hot hand)
• unanimity & consensus: suit (follow suit)

CARPETS & RUGS (2)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: rug (pull the rug out)
• concealment & lack of concealment: carpet (under the carpet), rug (under the rug)
• configuration: carpet (v), carpet (n), carpeted
• cover: carpet (v), carpet (n), carpeted
• identity & nature: tapestry (n)
• mixture: tapestry (n)
• welcome: mat (welcome mat), red carpet (treatment)

CAT (2) (see also animal; bird; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• competition: game (game of cat and mouse, etc.)
• concealment & lack of concealment: cat (bell the cat)
• decline: cat (dead-cat bounce)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: cat (bell the cat)
• money: fat cat
• pursuit, capture & escape: cat (cat and mouse / noun), cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.)
• warning: cat (bell the cat)

CENTER & PERIPHERY (1)
• cloth: fringe (edge), fringe (versus mainstream), fringe (on the fringe)
• direction: fore (come to the fore), forefront (center), foreground (n)
• ground, terrain & land: coast (n)
• heart: heart (center), heartland, heartwood
• mechanism: hub (center)
• river: backwater (n), mainstream
• sports & games: sideline (on the sideline), sideline (other)
• theater: stage (attention), stage (center stage), wings (in the wings)

CENTER & PERIPHERY (2)
• area: corner (in remote corners, etc.), corner (area)
• attenuation: marginalized
• bases: core (basis)
• importance & significance: centerpiece, central (adj), sideshow (n)
• power: inner circle (n), insider (person), outsider (person)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: outlier (n)
• society: center (society), fringe (on the fringes), fringe (versus mainstream), inner circle (n), insider (person), mainstream (n), margin (on the margins), outlier (n), outsider (person)
• strength & weakness: marginalized
CERTAINTY & UNCERTAINTY (1)
- air: air (up in the air)
- allusion: Bermuda Triangle
- atmosphere: air (up in the air)
- basketball: slam-dunk
- books & reading: open-and-shut (adj)
- cloud: cloudy (certainty)
- color: gray (gray area)
- direction: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory)
- ground, terrain & land: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (in uncharted territory), uncharted (adj)
- history: Bermuda Triangle
- horse: hands down (certainty)
- journeys & trips: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- justice: jury (the jury is out)
- letters & characters: question mark
- light & dark: clear (crystal clear), clear (unambiguous), cloudy (certainty), murky (adj), open-and-shut (adj), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.), twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- map: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- money: deal (done deal)
- picture: sketchy (adj)
- religion: limbo (in limbo)
- sea: uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
- shadow: shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)
- sports & games: game (guessing game), slam-dunk
- water: murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- weapon: surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)

CHAIN (2)
- configuration: chain (configuration)
- hierarchy: chain of command
- oppression: chain (oppression)
- sequence: chain (chain of events), chain (other), chain reaction
- strength & weakness: link (weak link)

CHARACTER & PERSONALITY (1) (see also behavior; identity & nature)
- allusion: Jekyll (Jekyll and Hyde), Panglossian, Pollyanna, Pollyannaish (adj)
- animal: bloodthirsty, creature (creature of habit, etc.), donkey, feisty (adj), gadfly (person), jackass, leech (person), maverick (person), mule-headed, pack rat (person), rogue (n), sheep (black sheep), snake (character), stud (n), whiner (person)
- arm: pushy (people)
- astronomy: eye (stars in the eyes)
- blood: bloodthirsty
- boat: showboat (v)
- cards: card (hold one's cards close), wild card (people)
- circus: clown (n), strongman (person)
- cloth: cloth (cut from cloth)
• conflict: mercenary
• cows & cattle: maverick (person)
• creature: angel (behavior), creature (creature of habit, etc.), devil (behavior), sphinx (n), witch (n)
• direction: buoyant (personality), crooked, high-minded (adj), shifty (adj), straight (honest), straight (the straight and narrow), straightforward, straight arrow, twisted (character), upstanding
• dog: feisty (adj), hot dog (person)
• earth & world: earthiness (character)
• electricity: live wire (person)
• equilibrium & stability: levelheaded
• explosion: grenade (n), self-destructive (v), time bomb (person)
• eye: eye (character and personality)
• feeling, emotion & effect: irritating
• food & drink: bitter (personality), sour (personality), sweet (personality)
• fruits & vegetables: apple (bad / rotten apple), nut (person)
• gambling: card (hold one’s cards close)
• ground, terrain & land: ground (both feet on the ground)
• hand: hand wringer (n)
• hardness & softness: hard (character), hard-nosed, snowflake (person), teacup (person), teddy bear
• head: coolheaded (adj), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
• health & medicine: incurable
• heart: bighearted, good-hearted, hard-hearted (adj), heart (young at heart, etc.), kind-hearted, soft-hearted
• height: cavalier (adj), upstanding
• history: cowboy (person)
• horse: cavalier (adj), gadfly (person), hard-charging (adj), maverick (person), stud (noun)
• hunting: hotshot (n)
• hygiene: mess (person)
• insect: butterfly (social butterfly), gadfly (person)
• journeys & trips: easygoing
• knife: backstabber
• love, courtship & marriage: odd couple
• magic: charming
• materials & substances: flexible (character), inflexible (character), mercurial (adj), putty (n), rigid (character), smooth (character)
• mechanism: wound (tightly wound)
• mental health: nut (person)
• military: strongman (person)
• mining: gold digger
• money: mercenary
• nose: hard-nosed (adj)
• person: cannon (loose cannon), dandelion (character), firebrand (person), gadfly (person), gold digger, hand wringer (n), hot dog (person), hothead (person), killjoy (person), leech (person), live wire (person), mercenary (person), nut (person), orchid (character), snake (character), snowflake (person), straight arrow (person), strongman (person), teacup (person), whiner (person)
• plant: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: about (character)
• religion: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), public-spirited
• sensation: abrasive (adj), irritating
• sheep: black sheep
• snake: snake (character)
• snow & ice: snowflake (person)
• sound: whiner (person)
• speech: loudmouth (person)
• sports & games: card (hold one’s cards close)
• statue: sphinx (n)
• storm: nature (force of nature)
• taste: bitter (personality); flavor (other), sour (personality); sweet (personality)
• temperature: cold (feeling), coolheaded (adj), fiery (character), firebrand, hot dog (person), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj), warmhearted (adj)
• theater: dramatic (dramatic child, etc.)
• verb: card (hold one’s cards close)
• water: buoyant (personality)
• weapon: cannon (loose cannon), hotshot (n)

CHARACTERIZATION (1)
• clothing & accessories: cameo (n)
• creature: demonization (n), demonized
• fire: brand (v)
• infrastructure: frame (characterize)
• manufacturing: cast (characterize), recast (v)
• mark: brand (v), mark (black mark), stigmatize (v)
• picture: cameo (n), paint (characterize), picture (view), portrait, profile, snapshot
• product: label (n), labeled
• religion: christen (v)
• verb: brand (v), cast (characterize), christen (v), paint (characterize), recast (v)

CHEMISTRY (2)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: essence
• attraction & repulsion: valence (attraction)
• bases: essence
• evidence: litmus test
• experimentation: experiment (n), litmus test
• feeling, emotion & effect: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), corrosive (adj)
• flaws & lack of flaws: rust (functioning), rusty (adj)
• functioning: chemistry, rust (functioning), rusty
• increase & decrease: oxygen (fuel)
• initiation: catalyst (n), oxygen (fuel)
• mixture: chemistry
• resemblance: rust (resemblance)
• speech: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically
• substance & lack of substance: essence

CHESS (2) (see also baseball; basketball; boxing; cards; gambling; sports & games; wrestling)
• control & lack of control: check (in check), pawn (n)
• power: pawn (n)
• progress & lack of progress: stalemate (n)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: checkmate (n)
• strategy: endgame, gambit (n), game (chess game), move (chess move, etc.)
• strength & weakness: pawn (n)
CIRCUS (2)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: Barnum, circus (media circus, etc.)
- behavior: clown (v)
- character & personality: clown (n), strongman (person)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: acrobatics (n), tightrope
- directing: ringmaster (person)
- fate, fortune & chance: tightrope
- importance & significance: sideshow (n)
- performance: circus (media circus, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: safety net
- resemblance: circus (media circus, etc.)

CITY (2) (see place)

CLAPPING (2)
- achievement, recognition & praise: applaud (v)

CLOCK (2)
- action, inaction & delay: clock (run out the clock)
- competition: clock (race with the clock)
- fate, fortune & chance: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
- past & present: clock (turn back the clock), wind back (v)
- sequence: tick-tock (n)
- shape: hourglass (shape)
- starting, going, continuing & stopping: tick on (v)
- time: clock (turn back the clock), clock (types), clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.), clock (reset the clock), hourglass (time)

CLOTH (2) (see also clothing & accessories)
- amelioration & renewal: iron out (v), patch (amelioration), patched, patchwork (n), untangle (v)
- amount: shred (shred of hope, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: pick apart (analyze), tease out (v), unpick (v), untangle (v)
- attachment: pin (attach), pinned, pinned (pinned down)
- avoidance & separation: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
- center & periphery: fringe (edge), fringe (versus mainstream), fringe (on the fringe)
- character & personality: cloth (cut from cloth)
- cloth: skein (entanglement)
- concealment & lack of concealment: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), come out (v), cover (under cover), covered up, cover up (v), coverup (n), curtain (pull back the curtain), shrouded (concealment), wrap (under wraps), wrap (take the wraps off something)
- condition & status: done and dusted, tatters (in tatters)
- configuration: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, fringe (configuration), fringed, shrouded (covered, tucked, wraparound
- cover: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, shroud (n), shrouded (covered), wrapped (covered)
- creation & transformation: embroider (v), patch (patch together), stitch together (v), weave (creation)
- development: unfold (develop), unfolding (developing)
- division & connection: intertwined, interwoven, knot (knit together), seamless, seamlessly, strand (connection), thread (connection), thread (v), tight-knit, weave together (v), woven

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 757 of 982
• environment: fabric (environment)
• extent & scope: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)
• fate, fortune & chance: thread (by a thread)
• failure, accident & impairment: fray (v), frayed, tatters (in tatters), unravel (fail)
• feeling, emotion & effect: pall (cast a pall)
• flaws & lack of flaws: fray (v), frayed, seamless (adj), tatters (in tatters), wrinkle (n)
• identity & nature: cloth (cut from cloth), dyed-in-the-wool, tapestry (n)
• inauguration: wrap (take the wraps off something)
• involvement: skein (entanglement), web (entanglement), wrapped (wrapped up in something)
• mixture: tapestry (n), weave (mixture)
• movement: weave (move)
• oppression: pall (cast a pall)
• proper name: ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)
• resemblance: strand (strand of hair, etc.), unfolding (opening), wrapped (covered)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: done and dusted, sewn (sewn up), wrap up (v)
• searching & discovery: unfold (discover), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), unraveled
• shape: needle (shape)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: done and dusted, wrap up (v)
• taxonomy & classification: cloth (cut from cloth), strand (n), stripe (of all stripes)

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES (2) (see also hygiene) (see also purses & wallets) (see also cloth)
• adapting: one-size-fits-all, tailor (v)
• affliction: shoe (a stone in the shoe)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: hung (hung out to dry)
• amelioration & renewal: tailor (v)
• amount: laundry (laundry list)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: strip (strip something down)
• appearance & reality: dressed (dressed up, etc.), dress up (v), naked (unadorned), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• characterization: cameo (n)
• concealment & lack of concealment: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), cloak (conceal), cloak (under a cloak), cloak (in a cloak), cloak (other), cloaked (concealed), dirty laundry, fig leaf, launder (v), lay (lay bare), naked (unadorned), search (strip search), veil (concealment), veil (under a veil), veiled
• condition & status: tatters (in tatters)
• configuration: cloaked (covered), necklace (n), skirt (configuration)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
• cover: cloaked (covered), veil (covering)
• creation & transformation: cobble together (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: boot (get the boot), boot out (v)
• empathy & lack of empathy: shoe (in somebody's shoes)
• experience: belt (under one's belt), hat (old hat)
• failure, accident & impairment: clotheslined, tatters (in tatters)
• fate, fortune & chance: shoe (a shoe can drop or fall)
• feeling, emotion & effect: shoe (a stone in the shoe)
• flaws & lack of flaws: tatters (in tatters)
• help & assistance: eye (naked eye)
• hyperbole: pants (scare the pants off somebody)
• inauguration: unveil (make public)
• oppression: boot (oppression), wringer (through the wringer)
• perception, perspective & point of view: shoe (in somebody’s shoes)
• person: boot (soldier)
• predation: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: fashion (out of fashion)
• protection & lack of protection: naked (protection)
• readiness & preparedness: pants (caught with one's pants down)
• removal: strip (v), stripped
• representation: mantle (n)
• resemblance: veil (covering)
• role: hat (role)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mantle (n)
• sex: pants (get in somebody's pants)
• shape: washboard
• size: seam (burst at the seams)
• substance & lack of substance: dress up (v), fig leaf, naked (substance), strip (strip something down)
• subterfuge: cloak-and-dagger, dressed (dressed up, etc.), launder (v), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: shoestring (n)

**CLOUD (2)**

• certainty & uncertainty: cloudy (certainty)
• consciousness & awareness: cloud (v), cloud (consciousness), clouded, cloudy (consciousness)
• evidence: cloud (sign)
• feeling, emotion & effect: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
• oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
• resemblance: cloud (resemblance)

**COERCION & MOTIVATION (1)**

• allusion: hector (v)
• animal: dog (attack dog), goad (v), herd (ride herd), pit bull (dog)
• arm: arm (twist arms, etc.), arm (long arm), arm-twisting, nudge (n), push (coercion and motivation), pushed around, pushy (people)
• blade: hatchet man (person)
• courtship & marriage: marriage (shotgun marriage)
• dog: dog (attack dog), pit bull (dog)
• finger: prod (v)
• fire: feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire up (v), grill (v)
• fruits & vegetables: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
• gesture: nudge (n)
• hand: hand (force someone’s hand)
• head: head (hold something over one’s head)
• Iliad & Odyssey: hector (v)
• military: draft (v)
• Native Americans: hatchet man (person)
• nuclear energy: option (nuclear option)
• person: bully (person), bully (v), hatchet man (n)
• plant: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
• pressure: press (v), pressure (under pressure), pressured
• school & education: bully (v), bully (person)
• speech: cudgel (n), goad (v)
• standing, sitting & lying: lean (lean on)
• temperature: heat (turn up the heat, etc.)
• tools & technology: screw (tighten the screws)
• train: railroad (v), railroaded
• verb: arm (twist arms, etc.), bully (v), crack down (v), draft (v), feet (hold somebody’s feet to the fire), fire (hold somebody’s feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire up (v), goad (v), grill (v), gun (hold a gun to one’s head, etc.), hand (force someone’s hand), head (hold something over one’s head), hector (v), herd (ride herd), lean (lean on), press (v), prod (v), push (coercion and motivation), railroad (v), screw (tighten the screws), strong-arm (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
• violence: arm-twisting, clampdown (n), crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), goad (v), strong-arm (v), waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
• weapon: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (hold a gun to one’s head, etc.)
• whip: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)

COLOR (1)
• atmosphere: rainbow (color)
• sky: rainbow (color)

COLOR (2)
• acceptance & rejection: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• appearance & disappearance: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• certainty & uncertainty: gray (gray area)
• consciousness & awareness: black out (v)
• danger: zone (red zone, etc.)
• identity & nature: blue (politics), red (politics)
• occurrence: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: black (feeling), blue (feeling), green (green with envy), livid (adj)
• oppression: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• origin: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• person: greenhorn (person)
• proper name: black (Black Sea, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
• readiness & preparedness: red alert (on red alert)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit)
• worth & lack of worth: white elephant

COMB (2)
• searching & discovery: comb (v)

COMING, ARRIVING, STAYING, LEAVING & RETURNING (1)
• animal: roar back (v), swan song
• ball: rebound (rebound headache, etc.)
• bell: ring in (the New Year, etc.)
• Bible: exodus (n)
• bird: swan song
• boat: ship (abandon / jump ship)
• day: day (day has arrived, etc.), sunset (ride into the sunset)
• direction: circle back (v), come back (v), comeback (n), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (come and go), turnover (work)
• doors & thresholds: exit (n), revolving door, usher in (v)
• explosion: burst on / onto the scene, etc.
• film: sunset (ride into the sunset)
• foot: footstep (retrace one's footsteps)
• government: vote (vote with one's feet)
• head: head (rear its head, etc.)
• horse: cavalcade (n)
• insect: descend (descend on)
• journeys & trips: circle back (v), get (get somewhere)
• light & dark: fade away (v)
• movement: circle back (v), conga line, day (day has arrived, etc.), footstep (retrace one’s footsteps), go (come and go), linger (v), lingering, loiter (v), parade (n), remain (v), return (v), return (n), revolving door
• music: waltz in (v)
• plane: bail out (leave), parachuted, parachute (golden parachute)
• religion: exodus (n)
• royalty: herald (v), herald (n)
• sea: wash up (v)
• sound: last hurrah, roar back (v), swan song
• sports & games: merry-go-round, musical chairs
• sun: sunset (ride into the sunset)
• table: table (come back to the table)
• tent: tent (fold one's tent)
• theater: bow out (v), curtain call, encore, exit (n), usher in (v)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: time (the time can arrive, etc.)
• verb: bail out (leave), bow out (v), burst on / onto the scene, etc., circle back (v), come back (v), descend (descend on), fade away (v), footstep (retrace one’s footsteps), get (get somewhere), go (come and go), head (rear its head, etc.), herald (v), hit (arrive), hover (other), linger (v), loiter (v), remain (v), return (v), ring in (the New Year, etc.), roar back (v), table (come back to the table), tent (fold one’s tent), usher in (v), walk (walk away from something), waltz in (v), wash up (v)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (move), parade (n)
• water: wash up (v)
• wave: wash up (v)
• weapon: boomerang (n)

**COMMITMENT & DETERMINATION (1)**

• allusion: believer (true believer), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• animal: dogged (determined), pit bull (dog), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• arm: pushing
• baseball: home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
• basketball: full-court press
• bullet: bullet (take a bullet for somebody)
• cards: double down (v)
• direction: down (down for something), go (go for something), live up to (something), up (up for something)
• dog: dogged (determined), pit bull (dog), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• equilibrium & stability: waver (v), unwavering (adj)
• eye: blind (disregarding evidence, logic), blindly
• face: game (game face)
• fence: straddle (straddle the fence)
• flags & banners: flag (plant one’s flag)
• food & drink: egg (put all one’s eggs in a basket, etc.)
• gambling: double down (v)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (bring it)
• heart: half-hearted, heart (commitment)
• history: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• journeys & trips: return (point of no return)
• materials & substances: grit (political grit, etc.), stick (stick to / by / with something)
• military: draft (v), flag (plant one’s flag)
• money: invest (v), investment (n), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
• movement: budge (v), go (go for something), waver (v), unwavering (adj)
• music: stop (pull out all the stops)
• number: percent (one hundred and ten percent)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: down (down for something), in (all in), up (up for something)
• religion: born-again, vow (v)
• river: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• size: go (go big)
• sports & games: full-court press, game (game face), home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
• standing, sitting & lying: lean in / into (lean into something), stand (stand firm), straddle (straddle the fence)
• tent: tent (fold one’s tent)
• verb: bring (bring it), budge (v), double down (v), draft (v), go (go big), go (go for something), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), invest (v), lean into (lean in / into something), live up to (something), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.), stand (stand firm), stick (stick to / by / with something), stop (pull out all the stops), straddle (straddle the fence), tent (fold one’s tent), walk (walk the walk), waver (v)
• walking, running & jumping: leap (commitment), walk (walk the walk)

COMPARISON & CONTRAST
• film: screen (split screen)
• hand: hand (on the one / other hand)

COMPETITION (1) (see also predation)
• allusion: Darwinian
• animal: dog-eat-dog, game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), jockey (v), law (law of the jungle, etc.), pack (competition), rat race, underdog (competition)
• blade: cutthroat
• cat: game (game of cat and mouse, etc.)
• clock: clock (race with the clock)
• direction: ahead (competition), dust (leave somebody in the dust)
• dog: dog-eat-dog, pack (competition), underdog (competition)
• football: football (n)
• ground, terrain & land: turf (turf war, etc.)
• government: race (elections)
• ground, terrain & land: jungle (competition)
• horse: dead heat, jockey (v), neck and neck (adj)
• hunting: game (game of cat and mouse, etc.)
• journeys & trips: pass (progress)
• jungle: jungle (competition), law (law of the jungle, etc.)
• knife: cutthroat
• money: marketplace (n)
• position: underdog (competition)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (competition)
• rat: rat race
• sports & games: contest (n), dust (leave somebody in the dust), football (n), front-runner, game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), lose out (v), pace-setter, race (arms race), race (competition), race (race against time, etc.), winner (n)
• verb: jockey (v), lose out (v), pass (progress)
• violence: cutthroat
• walking, running & jumping: front-runner, jump (get the jump), outpace (v), pace-setter, race (hurry), step (a step ahead / competition)
• weapon: duel (n), dueling (adj)
• wolf: pack (competition)

COMPETITION (2)
• time: clock (race with the clock)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: clock (race with the clock), race (race against time, etc.)

COMPLEXITY (1)
• allusion: Gordian knot, labyrinth
• cloth: skein (entanglement)
• ground, terrain & land: morass (n)
• history: byzantine
• infrastructure: labyrinth, maze
• mechanism: part (moving parts)
• rope: Gordian knot
• verb: wind (wind its way)

COMPREHENSION & INCOMPREHENSION (1)
• allusion: Delphic (adjective), Rosetta Stone
• day: dawn (v)
• electricity: lightning bolt (comprehension)
• eye: see (comprehension)
• fist: hit (comprehension)
• food & drink: digest (v)
• force: hit (comprehension)
• gesture: head (scratch one's head), head (shake one's head), head (go over one's head, etc.), head (get one’s head around something, etc.)
• history: Rosetta Stone
• journeys & trips: follow (argument)
• light & dark: clear (crystal clear), clear (perception), clear (unambiguous), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light bulb, murky (adj), opacity (n), opaque (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
• lightning: lightning bolt (comprehension)
• mind: mind (wrap / get one’s mind around something, etc.)
• movement: follow (argument)
• puzzle: puzzle (problem), puzzling
• religion: Delphic (adj)
• sea: fathom (v), unfathomable
• speech: Aha! (Aha! moment), joke (you must be joking, etc.)
• storm: lightning bolt (comprehension)
• verb: dawn (v), digest (v), follow (argument), get (understand), grasp (comprehend), head (scratch one’s head), head (shake one’s head), head (go over one’s head, etc.), head (get one’s head around something, etc.), hit (comprehension), illuminate (v), mind (wrap / get one’s mind around something, etc.), see (comprehension), waters (muddy the waters)
• water: eureka, murky (adj), sunk in, unfathomable, waters (muddy the waters)

**COMPUTER (1)**
• animal: worm (computers)
• blade: hack (get into), hack (fix), scrape (v)
• boat: navigation (cyberspace)
• cards: wildcard (computers)
• container: locker (n)
• creature: troll (computers), unicorn (rarity), zombie (computers)
• doors & thresholds: trapdoor (computers)
• earth & world: blogosphere (in the blogosphere), blogosphere (other)
• explosion: bomb (code bomb)
• fire: firewall (computers), war (flame war)
• food & drink: menu
• force: hit (computer)
• health & medicine: infect (computers), quarantine (v), viral (computers), virus (computers)
• Iliad & Odyssey: Trojan horse (computers)
• infrastructure: warehousing (data)
• knife: scrape (v)
• light & dark: darknet
• military: war (flame war)
• place: alley (Silicon Alley)
• plant: root (root server)
• puppet: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
• sports & games: surf (computers)
• verb: hack (get into), hack (fix), infect (computers), quarantine (v), scrape (v), surf (computers)
• warehouse: warehousing (data)
• weapon: bomb (code bomb)

**CONCEALMENT & LACK OF CONCEALMENT (1) (see also involvement)**
• alcohol: bootleg (adj), bootlegger
• allusion: cat (bell the cat)
• animal: burrow (burrow into), cat (bell the cat), ground (go to ground), hole (spider hole), holed up, mole (n)
• boat: dredge up (verb)
• burial: bury (conceal)
• cards: card (cards on the table), hold (close hold, etc.), tip (tip one’s hand), vest (play something close to the vest)
• carpets & rugs: carpet (under the carpet), rug (under the rug)
• cat: cat (bell the cat)
• cloth: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), come out (v), cover (under cover), covered up, cover up (v), coverup (n), curtain (pull back the curtain), shrouded (concealment), wrap (under wraps), wrap (take the wraps off something)
• clothing & accessories: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), cloak (conceal), cloak (under a cloak), cloak (in a cloak), cloak (other), cloaked (concealed), dirty laundry, fig leaf, launder (v), lay (lay bare), naked (unadorned), search (strip search), veil (concealment), veil (under a veil), veiled
• creature: ghostwriter (n)
• crime: search (search)
• direction: hide (hide behind something), netherworld, underground, underworld
• doors & thresholds: trapdoor (computers)
• eye: hidden
• face: mask (drop the mask), mask (hide)
• fox: ground (go to ground), holed up
• gambling: card (cards on the table), hold (close hold, etc.), tip (tip one’s hand), vest (play something close to the vest)
• ground, terrain & land: bury (conceal), buried (concealment), ground (go to ground), hole (spider hole), holed up, open (in / into the open), uncover (v)
• hand: hold (close hold, etc.), vest (play something close to the vest)
• house: basement (concealment), closet
• hunting: ground (go to ground), holed up
• hygiene: clean (come clean), dirty laundry, launder (v), sanitize (v), sanitized, scrub (remove)
• infrastructure: facade (n), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
• key: lock (lock something away), lock (under lock and key)
• light & dark: day (the light of day), light (shed light), shadow (concealment), shadowy, sunlight (concealment), transparency, transparent
• love, courtship and marriage: infidelity (n)
• mixture: blend in (v)
• orientation: underbelly, underside (n)
• river: undercurrent (n)
• shadow: shadow (concealment), shadowy
• skeleton: skeleton (skeleton in the closet)
• sports & games: card (cards on the table), hold (close hold, etc.), tip (tip one’s hand), vest (play something close to the vest)
• stomach: underbelly, underside (n)
• theater: backstage (adj), behind-the-scenes, curtain (pull back the curtain), scene (behind the scenes)
• tools & technology: black box (n)
• verb: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), betray (v), blend in (v), bury (conceal), cat (bell the cat), clean (come clean), cloak (conceal), come out (v), cover up (v), dredge up (v), erase (v), ground (go to ground), hide (hide behind something), launder (v), lay (lay bare), light (shed light), lock (lock something away), mask (hide), reveal (v), sanitize (v), scrub (remove), surface (bring to the surface), uncover (v), whitewash (v), wrap (take the wraps off something)
• verb to noun: reveal (big reveal, etc.)
• water: surface (under the surface), surface (bring to the surface)
• writing & spelling: erase (v), erased

CONDITION & STATUS (1) (see also ability & lack of ability; functioning)
• blade: honed, sharp
• blood: pulse (n)
• breathing: wheezing (condition)
• cloth: done and dusted, tatters (in tatters)
• clothing & accessories: tatters (in tatters)
• death & life: alive (status), alive (alive and well), dead (status), dead (dead on arrival), dead (dead in the water), last rites (n), life support (on life support), live (alive), moribund (adj)
• fish: dead (dead in the water)
• health & medicine: ailing (adj), anemic (adj), atrophy (v), basket case, bill of health, clean (addiction), dead (dead on arrival), diseased, exhausted (adj), exhaustion (n), handicapped, health (condition), healthy
(condition), hurting, last rites (n), life support (on life support), moribund (adj), prognosis (n), robust (adj), sclerotic (adj), shape (condition), sick (condition), sluggish (adj), test (stress test), unhealthy (condition), weary (condition), well (health), wheezing (condition), wounded (adj)

- hygiene: clean (addiction)
- journeys & trips: go (progress)
- knee: knee (bring to one’s knees), knee (on knees)
- knife: honed, sharp
- materials & substances: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other)
- mental health: troubled
- movement: dead (dead in the water), go (progress), limp (v), ongoing (investigation, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: atrophy (v)
- standing, sitting & lying: knee (bring to one’s knees), knee (on knees)
- verb: go (progress), knee (bring to one’s knees), limp (v)
- walking, running & jumping: limp (v)

**CONFIGURATION (1)**

- animal: dovetail (v), nestled, sardined
- arm: hug (configuration)
- astronomy: constellation (n), orbit (n)
- bird: dovetail (v), nestled, perch (v)
- blanket: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed
- boundary: bounded
- carpets & rugs: carpet (v), carpet (n), carpeted
- chain: chain (configuration)
- cloth: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, fringe (configuration), fringed, shrouded (covered), tuck, wraparound
- clothing & accessories: cloaked (covered), necklace (n), skirt (configuration)
- cooking: bake (attach), baked (baked in / into)
- container: package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
- doors & thresholds: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
- fish: sardined
- flying & falling: hover (numbers)
- food & drink: pancake (v), pancake (n), pancaked, sandwiched, spaghetti (snarl)
- infrastructure: built, built in, built-in
- island: archipelago (n)
- leg: straddle (configuration)
- letters & characters: punctuate (configuration)
- light & dark: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
- line: straddle (configuration)
- mark: dot (v), dotted (arrangement), speckled (configuration)
- materials & substances: marbled
- pendulum: suspended
- plant: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
- pressure: sardined, squeeze (fit), squeezed (fitted)
- rain: sprinkle (v), sprinkled (configuration)
- sea: archipelago (n), pearl (string of pearls)
- shadow: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
• shape: ringed (circled)
• sports & games: jigsaw puzzle (n)
• standing, sitting & lying: sprawling (adj), straddle (configuration)
• verb: blanket (v), dot (v), dovetail (v), hover (numbers), hug (configuration), pancake (v), perch (v), punctuate (v), skirt (configuration), sprinkle (v), squeeze (fit), straddle (configuration)
• weapon: scattershot (adj)
• wedge: wedged
• waste: littered

CONFLICT (1) (see also dominance & submission; resistance, opposition & defeat)
• air: turbulence
• allusion: cold war, Gandhi, Gandhian, Lawrence (T.E.)
• animal: back (off one’s back), back (get one’s back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v), bear (bear pit),
  bearbaiting, blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), blood sport (n), dogfight, growl (v),
  hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), head-to-head, horn (lock horns), hornet’s nest, roll over (v), snake pit
• atmosphere: turbulence
• back: back (off one’s back), back (get one’s back up, etc.), backbiting, back down (v)
• blade: stab (v)
• blood: blood (bad blood), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), bloodbath, blood
  sport (n)
• boat: shot (shot across the bow)
• boxing: bare-knuckled (adj), brawl (n), come (come out swinging), glove (the gloves are off), hitter (heavy
  hitter), jab (n), spar (v), square off (v), swing (take a swing), slug (slug something out), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-
  toe, etc.), upcutting
• character & personality: mercenary
• crashes & collisions: collide (v), course (on a collision course)
• crime: hit (mob hit)
• death & life: hit (mob hit)
• direction: side (conflict)
• dog: back (get one’s back up, etc.), dogfight, hackles (raise hackles), roll over (v)
• epithet: Gandhi, Lawrence (T.E.), Stalingrad (epithet)
• explosion: blowup (conflict), fireworks (conflict)
• eye: blink (v)
• face: face (conflict)
• farming & adjective: slash-and-burn (adj)
• film: match (death match)
• fire: fire (conflict), flame (conflict), scorched-earth, slash-and-burn (adj)
• fist: hitter (heavy hitter)
• football: football (n)
• fortification: siege (under siege)
• gesture: blink (v)
• ground, terrain & land: turf (turf war, etc.)
• hair: hackles (raise hackles)
• hardness & softness: velvet (Velvet Revolution)
• history: arena (in / inside the arena), cold war, gladiator (n), joust (v), jousting, match (death match), Stalingrad
  (epithet), wagon (circle the wagons), warpath (on the warpath), warrior (n)
• horn: head (butt heads), head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
• infrastructure: arena (in / inside the arena)
• insect: hornet’s nest
• love, courtship & marriage: honeymoon
• Middle Ages: gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet), joust (v), jousting
• military: attack (under attack, etc.), battle (v), battle (n), battle cry, battleground, ceasefire (n), combat (v), embattled, enemy (conflict), force (show of force), fray (above the fray), fray (conflict), front (conflict), last-ditch (adj), line (battle lines, etc.), rebellion (n), scorched-earth, siege (under siege), skirmish, Stalingrad (epithet), truce (n), war (at war), war (conflict), warfare (n), zone (combat zone)
• Native Americans: wagon (circle the wagons), warpath (on the warpath)
• person: fighter (street fighter), gladiator (n), warrior (n)
• physics: friction (conflict)
• pressure: blowup (conflict)
• shape: vicious circle
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: war of nerves
• smell: stink (raise a stink)
• snake: snake pit
• sound: clamor (v), clash (n), clash (v), fireworks (conflict), growl (v), outcry (n), uproar (controversy)
• speech: fireworks (conflict)
• sports & games: arena (in / inside the arena), blood sport (n), football (n), hitter (heavy hitter), match (death match), tug of war
• standing, sitting & lying: standoff (n)
• storm: storm (in the storm), storm (conflict)
• sword: sword (cross swords), sword (at swords’ points)
• temperature: cold war
• toe: toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.)
• verb: back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v), battle (v), blink (v), blood (smell blood), clash (v), collide (v), combat (v), fight (v), fire (a question, etc.), gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet), growl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), horn (lock horns), joust (v), roll over (v), slug (slug something out), spar (v), square off (v), stink (raise a stink), swing (take a swing), sword (cross swords), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), wagon (circle the wagons)
• violence: bear (bear pit), bearbaiting, bloodbath, feud (n), fighter (street fighter), gladiator (n), vendetta, warrior (n)
• water: turbulence
• weapon: arm (up in arms), attack (under attack, etc.), blowup (conflict), crossfire (n), duel (n), dueling (adj), fire (a question, etc.), outduel (v), shoot-out (n), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot), shot (warning shot)

CONFRONTING, DEALING WITH & IGNORING THINGS (1) (see also action, inaction & delay; avoidance & separation; attraction & repulsion; division & connection; eagerness & reluctance; reconciliation, resolution & conclusion; responsibility)
• allusion: frog (frog in boiling water)
• animal: frog (frog in boiling water)
• arm: toss back (v)
• ball: ball (ball in somebody’s court)
• bodily process: flinch (v)
• bridge: bridge (cross that bridge)
• clothing & accessories: skirt (skirt an issue, etc.)
• direction: bypass (v), come forward (v), end run (n), go (let something go), go around (v), man up (v), retreat (withdraw), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
• ear: ear (turn a deaf ear)
• eye: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blind spot, blink (v), eye (turn a blind eye), look (look the other way), stare (stare at defeat, etc.)
• face: face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face (in the face of), face up (face up to something)
• football: end run (n), punt (v), tackle (v)
• frog: frog (frog in boiling water)
• gesture: shrug (gesture), shrug off (v)
• ground, terrain & land: dust (collect dust)
• hand: grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), handle (deal with), handled, handling
• health & medicine: triage (n)
• height: rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
• horse: shy (shy away)
• journeys & trips: bridge (cross that bridge), can (kick the can down the road), go (not go there), road (go down that road, etc.), road (push something down the road)
• military: AWOL, retreat (withdraw)
• movement: bypass (v), end run (n), go (not go there), go around (v), road (go down that road, etc.), sidestep (v)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: above (above the fray, etc.)
• river: bridge (cross that bridge)
• sports & games: ball (ball in somebody’s court), end run (n), field (v), grapple (v), juggle (v), juggling, tackle (v), wrestle (v)
• standing, sitting & lying: lean in (v), sit (sit on one's hands), sit by (v)
• teeth: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
• temperature: frog (frog in boiling water)
• verb: bridge (cross that bridge), bypass (v), can (kick the can down the road), come forward (v), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), dust (collect dust), eye (turn a blind eye), face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face up (face up to something), flinch (v), go (let something go), go around (v), grapple (v), grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), hand (sit on one’s hands), handle (deal with), juggle (v), lean in (v), look (look the other way), put up with (v), punt (v), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.), road (push something down the road), shrug off (v), shy (shy away), sidestep (v), sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), step in (v), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v), toss back (v), wrestle (v)
• walking, running & jumping: bypass (v), can (kick the can down the road), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), end run (n), go around (v), road (push something down the road), sidestep (v), step in (v), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v)
• water: frog (frog in boiling water)
• wrestling: grapple (v), wrestle (v)

**CONSCIOUSNESS & AWARENESS (1)**
• addiction: opiate (n)
• alcohol: black out (v)
• allusion: frog (frog in boiling water), road (road to Damascus)
• animal: frog (frog in boiling water), sheep (consciousness)
• astronomy: black hole
• atmosphere: cloud (v), cloud (consciousness), clouded, cloudy (consciousness), drift (consciousness)
• Bible: road (road to Damascus)
• cloud: cloud (v), cloud (consciousness), clouded, cloudy (consciousness)
• color: black out (v)
• creature: giant (sleeping giant)
• day: dawn (v)
• direction: come (see something coming), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
• ear: deaf, ear (fall on deaf ears)
• eye: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blinded, blinder (n), blindsided, blind spot, clear-eyed (adj), envision (v), eye (open eyes, etc.), eye (closed eyes, etc.), eye-opening, eye-opener, eye-opening, see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), view (out of view)
• fog: fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy
• frog: frog (in boiling water)
• fruits & vegetables: vegetable (consciousness)
• ground, terrain & land: open (in / into the open)
• hand: hand (the right hand vs. the left hand)
• head: head (clear head)
• health & medicine: amnesia, conscious (aware), opiate (n)
• horse: blinder (n), blinkered (adj)
• journeys & trips: road (road to Damascus)
• light & dark: dark (in the dark), haze (perception), opaque (adj)
• map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
• mechanism: wheel (asleep at the wheel)
• mirror: mirror (n)
• nose: nose (under somebody's nose)
• plane: autopilot (on autopilot), blind (flying blind)
• radio: tune (stayed tuned)
• religion: road (road to Damascus)
• sensation: numb (adj)
• sheep: sheep (consciousness)
• size: giant (sleeping giant)
• sleep: asleep (adj), asleep (at the switch, etc.), awake (adj), awaken (awareness), awakening, nap (n), sleeping, sleepwalking, slumber (n), wake up (v), wake (wake-up call), woke (adj)
• snow & ice: blizzard (consciousness)
• speech: Aha! (“Aha” moment)
• sports & games: ball (take one’s eye off the ball), game (get one's head into the game)
• temperature: frog (frogs in boiling water)
• tools & technology: antenna, radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen)
• train: asleep (asleep at the switch)
• verb: awaken (awareness), ball (take one’s eye off the ball), black out (v), cloud (verb), come (see something coming), dawn (v), drift (consciousness), envision (v), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), keep up (awareness), map (drop off the map, etc.), radar (drop off the radar), see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), sink (sink into a coma, etc.), tuned (stay tuned), wake up (v)
• walking, running & jumping: keep up (awareness)
• warning: wake-up call
• water: frog (frogs in boiling water)
• weather: blizzard (consciousness), fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy

CONSTRAINT & LACK OF CONSTRAINT (1) (see also behavior; control & lack of control; restraint & lack of restraint)
• access & lack of access: open (open marriage, etc.)
• animal: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, leash (on a leash), muzzle (v), rein (free rein), wild (run wild)
• arm: hold back (obstacle), overreach (v)
• bird: fly (constraint), wing (clip / stretch one's wings)
boat: leeway (n)
books & reading: book (by the book)
boundary: limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overstep (v)
boxing: box (box somebody into a corner)
container: box (out / outside the box), boxed in (v), open-minded (adj), openness (n), pent-up (constrained)
crime: Geneva Convention, handcuff (v), handcuffed, hostage, manacle (n), prisoner (constraint), shackle (n), unfettered, unshackle (v)
dam: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
dog: leash (on a leash)
flood: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
flying & falling: fly (constraint)
ground, terrain & land: room (wiggle room)
hand: hand (tie one’s hands, etc.), handcuff (v), handcuffed, loose (let loose)
health & medicine: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled
history: Geneva Convention
horse: rein (free rein), unbridled
infrastructure: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), spigot (n)
justice: Geneva Convention
leg: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled
map: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)
materials & substances: elastic, flexible (adj), rigid (constraint), supple (adj)
mental health: straitjacket (n)
money: budget (attention budget, etc.)
movement: creep (mission creep, etc.)
plane: envelope (push the envelope)
river: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
rope: bind (constraint), bind (constrain), binding (adj), bound (constraint), slack (n)
skin, muscle, nerves & bone: hidebound
snow & ice: ice (put on ice)
space: room (opportunity), room (space)
speech: gag (n), loose (let loose), muffled
sports & games: box (box somebody into a corner)
temperature: ice (put on ice)
verb: bind (constrain), envelope (push the envelope), fly (constraint), hand (tie one’s hands, etc.), handcuff (v), hobble (v), hold back (obstacle), hostage (held hostage), jump (lines), limits (push something to its limits), loose (let loose), muzzle (v), overreach (v), overstep (v), unshackle (v), wing (clip / stretch one’s wings)
walking, running & jumping: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, jump (lines), overstep (v)
wall: wall (constraint)
water: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), spigot (n)

CONSUMPTION (1)
animal: lap up (v)
breathing: breathe (consume), inhale (v)
fish: hook (hook, line and sinker)
food & drink: appetite (appetite for fur, etc.), choke (v), consume (consumption), diet (n), digest (v), drink in (v), eat (consume), fed up, feed (fuel), feed (supply), feed (satisfy), feed (feed on / off / into something), gobble up (v), glutton (person), gorge (gorge on), hungry (adj), imbibe (v), insatiable (adj), lap up (v), palatable (adj), ravenous (adj), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), swallowed, taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 771 of 982
freedom, etc.), taste (taste for violence, etc.), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something),
thirst (n), unsavory

• person: glutton (person)
• taste: palatable (adj), saccharine (adj), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
• tongue: lap up (v)
• verb: breathe (consume), consume (consumption), devour (devour the classics, etc.), digest (v), eat (consume),
feed (fuel), feed (supply), gobble up (v), gorge (gorge on), imbibe (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), run out (v),
stomach (accept), swallow (accept), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• walking, running & jumping: run out (v)
• water: absorb (books, culture, etc.)

**CONSUMPTION (2)**

• time: time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (use time)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: time (run out of time), time (waste time)

**CONTAINER (2)**

• access & lack of access: bottle up (v), open up (access)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: out (want out)
• amount: bottomless (adj), brim (v), package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: unpack (v)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: showcase (v), showcase (n)
• computer: locker (n)
• configuration: package (benefits, etc.), package (commercial)
• constraint & lack of constraint: box (out / outside the box), boxed in (v), open-minded (adj), openness (n), pent up (constrained)
• cost & benefit: jar (cookie jar)
• death & life: life (container)
• environment: cauldron (n), crucible (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: bottle up (v), drained (feeling), emptiness (depression), empty (depression), hold
(hold something in), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pent-up (constrained)
• future: hold (future)
• heart: heart (container)
• idea: box (out / outside the box)
• identity & nature: melting pot (n)
• involvement: get (get into something), in (in deep, etc.), into (involvement)
• isolation & remoteness: bubble (isolation)
• mind: close-minded (adj), mind (container), mind (open mind), open-minded
• mixture: melting pot (n)
• past & present: past (in the past), time capsule
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: time capsule
• pursuit, capture & escape: way (way out / escape)
• responsibility: lap (in the lap of)
• situation: bind (in a bind), box (situation), get out (escape), jam (situation), lap (lap of luxury), limbo (in limbo),
out (want out), spot (in a tight spot, etc.), spot (tight spot, etc.), trap (Chinese finger trap), trouble (in trouble),
way (way out / escape)
• speech: open up (emotions, speech, etc.)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: brim (v)

**CONTENT (1)**

• farming & agriculture: fodder (n), grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
• food & drink: food (food for thought)
• ground, terrain & land: dirt (political dirt, etc.)
• manufacturing: mill (grist for the mill), mill (gossip / rumor mill)
• plant: fodder, grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
• wheat: grist (grist for the mill, etc.)

**CONTEXT (1) (see also analysis, interpretation & explanation; picture)**

- picture: picture (in the big picture)
- position: step (step back / perspective)
- theater: backdrop (against a backdrop)
- verb: step (step back / perspective)

**CONTROL & LACK OF CONTROL (1) (see also behavior; constraint & lack of constraint; restraint & lack of restraint)**

- allusion: King Canute, Lady Macbeth (epithet)
- animal: harness (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), horse (hold your horses), leash (on a leash), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, rogue, runaway, tame (v), tiger (n), wild (control)
- atmosphere: drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- boat: adrift, drift (control), helm (at the helm), helm (other), rudderless, ship (tight ship, etc.)
- chess: check (in check), pawn (n)
- crime: hijack (v), hijacked, usurp (v)
- direction: adrift, top (on top / control)
- dog: leash (on a leash)
- engine: driver (in the driver’s seat)
- epithet: Lady Macbeth (epithet)
- gate: gatekeeper
- ground, terrain & land: turf (control)
- hand: grip (in the grip), grip (control), hand (get out of hand), hand (upper hand), hand (in hand), hand (control), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), handled, handling, hands-off, hands-on, loosen (v)
- head: head (keep / lose one’s head), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
- health & medicine: knee-jerk (adj)
- history: cowboy (person), no man’s land, wild West
- horse: harness (v), horse (hold your horses), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, unbridled
- justice: police (v)
- magic: hypnotize (v)
- materials & substances: putty (n), unglued
- mechanism: brake (control), lever (levers of power, etc.), wheel (asleep at the wheel), wheel (hand on the wheel)
- mental health: amok (run amok), berserk, crazy (behavior)
- military: cannon (loose cannon), marching orders, no man’s land (war and violence)
- movement: brake (control), spin (out of control), spiral (out of control)
- person: cannon (loose cannon), chaperon (person), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj), police (thought police, etc.)
- plane: spiral (spiral out of control, etc.)
- puppet: puppet (control), puppeteer (n), string (pull strings)
- purses & wallets: pocket (in the pocket)
- religion: god (play god, etc.)
- royalty: ruled, usurp (v)
- sea: King Canute
• society: gatekeeper
• sex: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flinch (v), knee-jerk (adj), reflex (n), twitch (quick-twitch)
• sleep: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
• speech: tongue (hold one’s tongue)
• sports & games: check (in check), free-for-all (control), pawn (n)
• storm: whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
• temperature: hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
• tide: King Canute
• tiger: tiger (n)
• tongue: tongue (hold one’s tongue)
• train: train (runaway train)
• verb: flinch (v), hand (get out of hand), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), harness (v), head (keep / lose one’s head), herd (v), herd (ride herd), hijack (v), horse (hold your horses), loosen (v), police (v), rein (rein in), shot (call the shots), spin (spin out of control), spiral (spiral out of control, etc.), string (pull strings), tame (v), usurp (v)
• walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), runaway
• water: fluid (adj)
• wind: drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)

CONTROL & LACK OF CONTROL (2)
• alcohol: drunk (adj)
• behavior: control (behavior)
• fate, fortune & chance: control (out of one's control)
• feeling, emotion & effect: control (in control)
• restraint & lack of restraint: control (out of control), control (in control), control (under control)

COOKING (2) (see also food & drink; fruits & vegetables; meat; taste)
• accusation & criticism: grill (v), skewer (v), skewered
• affliction: skewer (v), skewered
• attachment: bake (attach), baked (baked in / into)
• configuration: bake (attach), baked (baked in / into)
• creation & transformation: concoct (v), cook up (v), cooked up
• effect: stir (effect)
• fate, fortune & chance: frying pan
• feeling, emotion & effect: stir (effect)
• flaws & lack of flaws: half-baked (adj)
• identity & nature: bake (attach), baked (baked in / into)
• initiation: stir (v), stir up (v)
• speech: mince (v), roast (v), skewer (v), skewered

CORNER (2)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: corner (in one’s corner)
• alternatives & choices: corner (situation)
• area: corner (in remote corners, etc.)
• development: corner (turn the corner)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: corner (cut corners)
• future: corner (around the corner)
• progress & lack of progress: corner (turn the corner)
• proximity: corner (around the corner)
• situation: corner (situation)

CORRUPTION (1) (see also affliction; predation)
• air: miasma
• atmosphere: miasma
• direction: twist (v), twisted (corruption)
• environment: cesspool
• food & drink: curdle (v), fresh (adj), rot (v), rot (n), rotten (adj), sour (adj), sour (v), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
• ground, terrain & land: swamp (fever swamp)
• health & medicine: contagion (n), corrupting, corruption (n), fester (v), infect (corrupt), infected, infection (corruption), sickness (n)
• hygiene: filthy (corruption)
• light & dark: shady (adj), tarnish (v), tarnished
• materials & substances: contaminate (v), contaminated, contamination, poison (v), taint (v), tainted
• plant: blight (v), blight (n), blighted
• shadow: shady (adj)
• size: stunted
• smell: cesspool, miasma, noxious (adj), stink (v)
• swamp: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp)
• taste: sour (v), sour (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.)
• verb: blight (v), contaminate (v), curdle (corruption), infect (corrupt), poison (v), pollute (v), rot (v), sour (v), stink (v), swamp (drain the swamp), taint (v), tarnish (v), twist (v)
• water: pollute (v), polluted, swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp)

COST & BENEFIT (1) (see also waste; worth & lack of worth)
• container: jar (cookie jar)
• distance: mileage, way (go a long way)
• explosion: boom (jade boom, etc.)
• food & drink: gravy, gravy train, jar (cookie jar), meal ticket
• fruits & vegetables: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
• gift: gift (benefit)
• letters & characters: plus (benefit)
• magic: curse (n)
• military: Pyrrhic victory
• mining: bonanza (n), gold rush
• money: afford (v), bonanza (n), bottom line, capital (money), cash in (v), cost (v), cost (at a cost), cost (at all costs), costly (adj), dividend (pay dividends), expense (at the expense), gold rush, pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off, payoff, price (n), price tag, prize (n), prized, profit (v), reward (v), reward (n), rewarding, spend (energy, etc.), toll (n), toll (take a toll, etc.), worth
• religion: blessed, blessing (benefit), curse (n), graced, miracle (other)
• scale: outweigh (cost and benefit)
• sound: bang (bang for the buck)
• ticket: meal ticket
• tree: fruit (low-hanging fruit), windfall (n)
• verb: afford (v), cash in (v), cost (v), outweigh (cost and benefit), pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off (v), profit (v), reward (v), spend (spend energy, etc.), toll (take a toll, etc.)
• weight: outweigh (cost and benefit)
COUNTRY (see place)

COURAGE & LACK OF COURAGE (1) (see also strength & weakness)
- animal: chicken-hearted, chicken (chicken out), lion (courage)
- back: backbone (courage), spine (courage)
- bird: chicken-hearted, chicken (chicken out)
- bodily process: flinch (v)
- heart: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
- lion: lion (courage)
- person: lion (courage)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nerve (courage)
- stomach: guts (courage)
- verb: brave (v), chicken (chicken out), flinch (v), pants (scare the pants off somebody)

COURSE (1) (see also direction)
- journeys & trips: detour (n), direction (in a direction), direction (journey), journey (in one’s journey), journey (on a journey), journey (n), passage, path (on the path), path (on a path), path (down a path), path (path of peace, etc.), path (path to / toward legalization, etc.), rite (rite of passage), road (road from / to something), road (along / on the road), road (long road), route (course), shortcut (n), way (along the way)

COVER (1)
- blanket: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed
- breathing: smother (cover)
- carpets & rugs: carpet (v), carpet (n), carpeted
- cloth: blanket (v), blanket (under a blanket), blanket (cover), blanketed, shroud (n), shrouded (covered), wrapped (covered)
- clothing & accessories: cloaked (covered), veil (covering)
- umbrella: umbrella (under an umbrella), umbrella (other)
- verb: blanket (v), carpet (v), smother (cover)

COWS & CATTLE (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
- character & personality: maverick (person)
- creation & transformation: calve (v), calving
- force: bull (bull in a china shop)
- idea: sacred cow
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sacred cow
- taking & removing: milk (v)
- worth & lack of worth: cow (cash cow)

CRASHES & COLLISIONS (2)
- attraction & repulsion: hit (hit it off)
- conflict: collide (v), course (on a collision course)
- destruction: crash (crash down), shipwreck (n), wreck (v), wreck (train wreck), wreck (person)
- failure, accident & impairment: crash (population crash, etc.), crash-land (v), shipwreck (n), T-bone (v), T-boned, wreck (v), wreck (train wreck), wreck (person)
- functioning: crash (population crash, etc.)
- haste: crash (crash course, etc.)

CREATION & TRANSFORMATION (1)
- allusion: Phoenix (myth), road (road to Damascus)
- animal: breed (create), breeding ground, spawn (v), spawned, web (spin a web)
• baby: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• Bible: road (road to Damascus)
• birth: birth (creation), birthday (creation), birthed (created), born (creation), born-on (adj), germinate (v), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), labor pains, midwife, spawn (v), stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• blade: carved out, carve out (v)
• bodily process: spit out (v)
• books & reading: author (person)
• cloth: embroider (v), patch (patch together), stitch together (v), weave (creation)
• clothing & transformation: cobble together (v)
• cooking: concoct (v), cook up (v), cooked up
• cows & cattle: calve (v), calving
• death & life: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• direction: turn (transform), turn out (create)
• epithet: Edison (Thomas Alva), father (father of India, etc.), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), mother (mother of invention, etc.)
• family: brainchild, father (father of India, etc.), godfather, mother (mother of invention, etc.)
• farming & agriculture: plant (create), seed (n), sow (v)
• finger: finger (snap one’s fingers)
• fire: Phoenix (myth)
• fish: spawn (v), spawned
• food & drink: hash out (v)
• gesture: finger (snap one’s fingers)
• glacier: calve (v)
• hammer: hammer out (v), hammered out
• head: brainchild
• health & medicine: doctored
• infrastructure: architect, build (create), drawing board (on the drawing board), drawing board (other), engineered
• insect: web (spin a web)
• journeys & trips: road (road to Damascus)
• knife: carved out, carve out (v)
• magic: finger (snap one’s fingers)
• manufacturing: byproduct, churn out (v), fabricate (v), fabricated, fabrication, forge (v), forged, grind out (v), machine (publicity machine, etc.), making (creation), mill (n), mold (v), reshap (v), shape (v), shaped, strike (strike a deal, etc.)
• mechanism: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
• money: coin (v), minted
• mouth: spit out (v)
• movement: spin-off (n)
• nuclear energy: breeder reactor (n)
• person: author (person)
• picture: masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
• plant: germinate (v), kernel (n), planted (create), seed (n), sow (v)
• pressure: squeeze (squeeze something for / from / out of something), wring (wring something from / out of something)
• religion: born-again, road (road to Damascus)
• sea: sea change (n)
• snow & ice: calve (v)
• sound: drum up
• speech: translate (v)
• spider: web (spin a web)
• tools & technology: churn out (v), grind out (v)
• verb: breed (create), build (create), calve (v), carve out (v), churn out (v), cobble together (v), coin (v), concoct (v), cook up (v), drum up (v), embroider (v), fabricate (v), forge (v), germinate (v), gestate (v), grind out (v), hammer out (verb), hash out (v), make up (v), mold (v), patch (patch together), plant (create), recast (v), reshape (v), shape (v), sow (v), spawn (v), spit out (v), squeeze (squeeze something for / from / out of something), stitch together (v), strike (strike a deal, etc.), translate (v), turn (transform), turn out (create), weaponize (v), weave (creation), wing (wing something from / out of something)
• weapon: weaponization (n), weaponize (v)

CREATURE (2)
• ability & lack of ability: wizard (person), wizardry
• affliction: Frankenstein (product), monster (create a monster), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
• accusation & criticism: demonization (n), demonized
• achievement, recognition & praise: giant (achievement), titan (n)
• activity: ghost town
• affliction: bedevil (v), bedeviled, bogeyman (n), demon (affliction), fury (creature), genie (initiation), ghost (memory), gremlin (n), haunt (v), haunted, monster (affliction), specter (n)
• amelioration & renewal: exorcise (v)
• appearance: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
• appearance & disappearance: ghost (verb), ghost (ghost ship, etc.), phantom
• behavior: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), zombie (behavior)
• character & personality: angel, creature (creature of habit, etc.), devil (behavior), sphinx (n), witch (n)
• characterization: demonization (n), demonized
• computer: troll (computers), unicorn (rarity), zombie (computers)
• concealment & lack of concealment: ghostwriter (n)
• consciousness & awareness: giant (sleeping giant)
• creature: ghost (bury the ghost)
• destruction: heart (knife in the heart, etc.)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: exorcise (v)
• epithet: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: demonic (adj), haunting, spook (v), spooked
• fantasy & reality: ghost (fantasy and delusion), heffalump (creature), phantom
• help & assistance: angel (guardian angel), angel (trail angel, etc.)
• identity & nature: creature (creature of habit, etc.)
• importance & significance: giant (achievement), titan (n)
• initiation: genie (initiation), Pandora's box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), worm (can of worms)
• knowledge & intelligence: genie (knowledge), wizard (person), wizardry
• oppression: pitchfork (oppression)
• power: giant (sleeping giant)
• presence & absence: ghost town
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: ghost (ghost signs, etc.)
• product: Frankenstein (product)
• proper name: angel (Guardian Angels, etc.), devil (Devil's Falls, etc.), dragon (Dragon's Jaw, etc.), elf (Elves Chamber, etc.), fairy (Fairy Bridge, etc.), Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.), giant (Giants Causeway, etc.), monster (Monster.com, etc.), troll (Troll Wall, etc.)
• oppression: witch hunt
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bury (bury the ghosts, etc.), exorcise (v)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ghost (ghost children, etc.)
• shape: angel (snow angel)
• size: behemoth, giant (size), leviathan (n), monster (size), titan (n)
• subterfuge: ghostwriter (n)
• superlative: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), angel (superlative)
• taxonomy & classification: creature (creature of habit, etc.)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: creature comfort
• worth & lack of worth: unicorn (rarity)

CRIME (2)
• amount: mob (group)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: steal (steal the show, etc.)
• behavior: mob (group)
• concealment & lack of concealment: search (strip search)
• conflict: hit (mob hit)
• constraint & lack of constraint: Geneva Convention, handcuff (v), handcuffed, hostage, manacle (n), prisoner (constraint), shackle (n), unfettered, unshackle (v)
• control & lack of control: hijack (v), usurp (v)
• crime: poach (v)
• group, set & collection: mob (group)
• person: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
• possession: hijack (v), hijacked, usurp (v)
• taking & removing: buccaneer (person), hijack (v), hijacked, loot (v), piracy, pirate (person), plundered, poach (v), poached, rob (v), robbed, robbery (n), steal (steal customers, etc.), usurp (v)

CURTAILMENT (1) (see also starting, going, continuing & ending)
• blade: cut off (v)
• books & reading: book (close the book)
• cards: fold (v)
• death & life: kill (v), kill off (v)
• direction: take down (v)
• fire: snuff (v)
• hand: break off (v)
• infrastructure: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
• mechanism: shut down (v)
• water: dissolve (terminate)
• verb: book (close the book), break off (v), cut off (v), dismantle (v), dissolve (terminate), fold (v), kill (v), kill off (v), plug (pull the plug), shut down (v), snuff (v), take down (v)
• water: plug (pull the plug)

DAM (2) (see also infrastructure) (see also flood; river)
• amount: reservoir (amount)
• amount & effect: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgates (other)
• constraint & lack of constraint: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• driving force: powerhouse
• obstacles & impedance: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• portal: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• power: powerhouse
• source: reservoir (source)
• strength & weakness: powerhouse

**DANGER (1)** *(see also decline; destruction; failure, accident & impairment; flaws & lack of flaws; predation; success & failure)*

- allusion: Scylla and Charybdis
- animal: hornet's nest, sitting duck, snake pit
- bird: sitting duck
- blade: call (close call / danger), shave (close shave)
- boat: lighthouse, rock (on the rocks), shoal (n), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- bodily process: sigh (sigh of relief)
- breathing: sigh (sigh of relief)
- color: zone (red zone, etc.)
- electricity: rail (third rail)
- epithet: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- explosion: bomb (danger), booby trap, landmine, minefield, powder keg, tripwire (danger)
- eye: evil eye
- forest: woods (out of the woods)
- ground, terrain & land: jungle (competition), terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
- hair: call (close call / danger), shave (close shave)
- hunting: pitfall (n), trap (n)
- Iliad & Odyssey: Scylla and Charybdis
- insect: hornet's nest
- journeys & trips: woods (out of the woods)
- jungle: jungle (competition)
- military: bomb (danger), booby trap, landmine, minefield, powder keg, tripwire (danger)
- mountains & hills: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- place: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- route: way (in harm's way), way (out of harm's way)
- sea: lighthouse, rock (on the rocks), shoal (n), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- sign, signal, symbol: zone (red zone, etc.)
- snake: snake pit
- speech: tongue (danger)
- teeth: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
- tongue: tongue (danger)
- train: rail (third rail)
- verb: tread (tread carefully, etc.)
- walking, running & jumping: landmine, minefield, pitfall (n), tread (tread carefully, etc.)
- water: waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- weapon: bomb (danger), booby trap, landmine, minefield, powder keg, tripwire (danger)

**DAY (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: heyday (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: day (at the end of the day)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: day (day has arrived, etc.), sunset (ride into the sunset)
- comprehension & lack of comprehension: dawn (v)
- death & life: night (death)
- decline: twilight (in the twilight)
- fate, fortune & chance: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
- future: day (new day), day (day has arrived, etc.), tomorrow (future)
• growth & development: day (early days)
• past & present: day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (of one's day), day (these days), day (those days), day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (modern day), old (of old), today (n), yesterday (n)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (of one’s day), day (those days), day (have one’s day), day (glory days), heyday (n), latest (most recent), sun (currency and obsolescence), twilight (in the twilight)
• proximity: eve (on the eve)
• speed: overnight
• starting, going, continuing & ending: dawn (from / since the dawn), dawn (n), day (new day), day (early days)
• superlative: Christmas
• timeliness and lack of timeliness: day (early / late in the day), late (timeliness), morning (early in the morning)

DEATH & LIFE (1)
• blood: blood (blood represents life)
• container: life (container)
• day: night (death)
• direction: fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen)
• epithet: killer (silent killer, etc.)
• heart: heartbeat (n), heart (beating heart)
• infrastructure: life (life is a building)
• justice: capital punishment, death (death sentence)
• movement: passing (death)
• religion: last rites (n)
• sign, signal, symbol: blood (blood represents life), cradle (symbol), grave (symbol), night (death)
• sound: heartbeat (n), heart (beating heart)

DEATH & LIFE (2)
• activity: alive (activity), alive (come alive), hibernation (in hibernation), life (spring to life)
• age: young (adj)
• amelioration & renewal: alive (come alive), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), reinvigorate (v), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: autopsy (analysis), dissect (v), post-mortem (analysis)
• appearance & disappearance: lose (extinction), vanishing (disappearance)
• bases: lifeblood
• condition & status: alive (status), alive (alive and well), dead (status), dead (dead on arrival), dead (dead on arrival), last rites (n), life support (on life support), live (alive), moribund (adj)
• conflict: hit (mob hit)
• creation & transformation: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• curtailment: kill (v), kill off (v)
• decline: cat (dead-cat bounce), death (decline), die down (v), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell)
• destruction: coup de grace (deathblow), deadly (adj), deathblow, death warrant, flatline (v), funeral (one’s funeral), grave (dig one’s grave), graveyard (destruction), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), kill (v), kill off (v), kiss of death, knell (death knell), knife (knife in the heart), suicide (career suicide, etc.)
• epithet: graveyard (graveyard of the Turks, etc.), killer (silent killer, etc.)
• euphemism: dust (bite the dust), fallen (the fallen), feet (feet first), lose (through death), lost (death), pass away (v), passing (death), place (resting place)
• failure, accident & impairment: flatline (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: coup de grace (deathblow), death (cheat death), death warrant, doomed, funeral (one’s funeral), grave (dig one’s grave), kiss of death, noose (fate)
• feeling, emotion & effect: deadening (effect), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), killjoy (person), knife (knife in the heart)
• foot: feet (feet first)
• functioning: dead (functioning)
• growth & development: age (come of age), mature (v), maturity, stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.), young (adj)
• hyperbole: death (to death), die (hyperbole)
• initiation: life (spring to life)
• mechanism: life (mechanism, etc.)
• neck: neck (save one’s neck)
• person: survivor (person)
• place: grave (place), graveyard (place), live (location)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell), live on (v), living (adj), vanishing (disappearance)
• searching & discovery: exhume (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: alive (status), coup de grace (deathblow), dead (dead in the water), die (survival), die out (end), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell), life (spring to life), live (alive), live on (v), suicide (career suicide, etc.)
• substance & lack of substance: alive (come alive), flesh and blood, life (bring to life)
• success & failure: kill (verb / accomplishment), stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• survival, persistence & endurance: alive (keep something alive), die (survival), life (survival), life (give life), lifeline, live (live with something), live on (v), rescue (v), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), save (v)

**DECLINE (1)** *(see also increase & decrease; destruction)*
- animal: breed (breeding breed, etc.), cat (dead-cat bounce)
- astronomy: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), star (decline), wane (on the wane), wane (v)
- blade: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
- burial: knell (death knell)
- cat: cat (dead-cat bounce)
- day: twilight (in the twilight)
- death & life: cat (dead-cat bounce), death (decline), die down (v), doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell)
- direction: bottom (hit bottom), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crater (v), descend (v), descent (decline), dive (n), down (decline), downfall (n), drop (v), downhill, downturn (n), drop, fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (n), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall on / upon), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), falloff (n), free-fall (in free-fall), free-fall (n), gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), low (decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), race (race to the bottom), sag (v), sink (decline), slide (n), slide (v), slip (v), slump (v), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), spiral (in a spiral), spiral (into a spiral), spiral (on a downward spiral), spiral (downward spiral, etc.), spiral (other), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
- erosion: crumble (v), erode, eroding, erosion
- fire: burn out (v), burnout (n), die (die down)
- flying & falling: free-fall (in free-fall), free-fall (n), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease)
- ground, terrain & land: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), rock-bottom (adj)
- health & medicine: life support (on life support)
- history: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other)
• infrastructure: gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
• knife: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• ground, terrain & land: precipitous (adj), sinkhole (n)
• light & dark: dim (decline), fade (v), star (decline), twilight (in the twilight)
• mechanism: grind (grind down)
• moon: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• mountains & hills: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), downhill, hill (over the hill), precipitous (adj)
• movement: slide (n), slide (v), stagnant (adj), stagnate (v) tailspin (in a tailspin)
• plane: crater (v), nosedive (v / decline), nosedive (n / decline), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin)
• plant: shrivel (v), wilt (v), wither (v)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: fall (n)
• sea: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb), washed-up (adj)
• season: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
• size: shrink (decline)
• sound: knell (death knell)
• sports & games: race (race to the bottom)
• star: star (decline)
• sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• tide: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb)
• verb: burn out (v), crater (v), crumble (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), descend (v), die down (v), dim (decline),
  ebb (decline), eclipse (v), erode (v), fade (v), fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall into chaos,
  etc.), fall off (v), grind (grind down), nosedive (verb / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline /
  decrease), shrink (decline), shrivel (v), sink (decline), slide (v), slip (v), slump (v), spiral (spiral downward,
  etc.), stagnate (v), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), wane (v), wilt (v)
• walking, running & jumping: race (race to the bottom), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
• water: stagnant (adj), stagnate (v), washed-up (adjective), sag (v)
• wave: washed-up (adj)

**DEPENDENCY (1)**
• addiction: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency)
• baby: babysitter (role), nanny (person), wean (v)
• family: babysitter (role), nanny (person)
• health & medicine: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency), crutch (n)
• mechanism: wheel (training wheels)
• person: babysitter (role), nanny (person), slave (slave to fashion, etc.)
• riding: ride (ride on something)
• verb: wean (v)

**DESERT (2)**
• environment: desert (environment), oasis (environment), sand (political sands, etc.)
• epithet: ship (ship of the desert)
• proper name: oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
• resemblance: desert (environment)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: desert (food desert, etc.)

**DESTRUCTION (1) (see also danger; decline; failure, accident & impairment; flaws & lack of flaws; success & failure)**
• air: puncture (v)
• allusion: Armageddon, kiss of death, holocaust, vandal (n)
• animal: carcass (n), devour (destroy), eat (destroy), nibble (destroy), trample (v), trampled

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 783 of 982
• atmosphere: puncture (v)
• baby: cradle (strangled in the cradle, etc.)
• back: back (break the back)
• Bible: Armageddon, kiss of death
• blade: dagger, heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• boat: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shipwreck (n), shoal (n), sink (destroy), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
• breaking: tear apart (v)
• breathing: strangled, strangulation
• burial: coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (destruction), knell (death knell)
• crashes & collisions: crash (crash down), shipwreck (n), wreck (v), wreck (train wreck), wreck (person)
• creature: heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• death & life: coup de grace (deathblow), deadly (adj), deathblow, death warrant, flatline (v), funeral (one's funeral), grave (dig one's grave), graveyard (destruction), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), kill (v), kill off (v), kiss of death, knell (death knell), knife (knife in the heart), suicide (career suicide, etc.)
• direction: bring down (v), crash (crash down), downfall (n), fell (v), topple (v)
• epithet: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), graveyard (graveyard of the Turks, etc.), killer (silent killer, etc.)
• equilibrium & stability: topple (v)
• erosion: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration
• explosion: blasted apart, blow up (destroy / disrupt), explode (destroy), implode (v), self-destructive (adj)
• farming & agriculture: slash-and-burn (adj)
• fire: ashes, extinguish (v), Phoenix (myth), slash-and-burn (adj), snuff (v)
• food & drink: cannibalized, consume (destroy), devour (destroy), devoured, eat (destroy), eaten alive, nibble (destroy)
• foot: stamp out (v), trample (v), trampled
• ground, terrain & land: abyss (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (push something over the edge), precipice (at the precipice)
• hand: crush (destroy), crush (feeling and emotion)
• health & medicine: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), pill (poison pill)
• heart: heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• history: Chernobyl, holocaust, vandal (n)
• house: roof (a roof can cave in)
• hunting: gut (destroy)
• infrastructure: buckle (give way), collapse (n), crash (crash down), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), ruin (verb), ruin (in ruins), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v)
• knife: dagger, heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• manufacturing: unmaking (destruction)
• materials & substances: shatter (v), shattered, shattering
• mechanism: break (destroy), break down (destroy)
• military: sabotage (v), sabotaged, scorched-earth, waste (lay waste)
• mountains & hills: abyss (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (push something over the edge), precipice (at the precipice)
• nuclear energy: Chernobyl, meltdown (n)
• paper: tear up (v)
• person: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), vandal (n), wreck (person)
• place: Chernobyl
• predation: consume (destroy), devour (destroy), devoured, eat (destroy), eaten alive, nibble (destroy)
• religion: kiss of death
• roof: roof (a roof can cave in)
• ruins: buckle (give way), collapse (n), crash (crash down), damage (n), debris, destruction (n), roof (a roof can cave in), rubble (in the rubble), rubble (other), ruin (v), ruin (in ruins), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, topple (v), tumble down (v), waste (lay waste), wreck (v), wreck (persons), wreckage (n), wrecked, wrecking ball (n)
• sea: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shoal (n), sink (destroy), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
• season: winter (nuclear winter, etc.)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: lacerate (v)
• sound: knell (death knell)
• stomach: gut (destroy)
• tools & technology: bulldoze (v), steamroll (v), wrecking ball (n)
• train: wreck (train wreck)
• verb: back (break the back), blow up (destroy / disrupt), break (destroy), brink down (v), buckle (give way), break down (destroy), bulldoze (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), consume (destroy), crash (crash down), crumble (v), crush (destroy), crush (feeling and emotion), devour (destroy), disintegrate (v), drain (go down the drain), eat (destroy), eviscerate (v), extinguish (v), fell (v), flatline (v), gut (destroy), implode (v), kill (v), kill off (v), lacerate (v), nibble (destroy), pipe (go down the pipes), puncture (v), ruin (v), sabotage (v), scupper (v), scuttle (v), shatter (v), sink (destroy), snuff (v), stamp out (v), steamroll (v), tear apart (v), tear up (v), topple (v), torpedo (v), trample (v), tube (go down the tubes), waste (lay waste), water (blow something out of the water), wreck (v), wrench (throw a wrench)
• violence: coup de grace (deathblow), rape (v), rape (n)
• weapon: coup de grace (deathblow), deathblow

DESTRUCTION (2) (see also danger; decline; failure, accident & impairment; flaws & lack of flaws; predation; success & failure)
• amelioration & renewal: piece (pick up the pieces)
• division & connection: torn
• feeling, emotion & effect: torn up
• resiliency: piece (pick up the pieces)

DEVELOPMENT (1)
• astronomy: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• baseball: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)
• books & reading: book (close the book), book (development), chapter, page (development)
• boxing: round (boxing)
• cloth: unfold (develop), unfolding (developing)
• corner: corner (turn the corner)
• direction: come (something can come along), go (development), lead (one thing leads to another), pivot (n), pivotal, point (tipping point), roller coaster (development), see (see something coming), seesaw (n), swing (swing around), turn (take a turn), turn (development), turning point, turn out (develop), twist (n), ups and downs
• flying & falling: trajectory (n)
• food & drink: appetizer (n), main course
• health & medicine: head (come to a head)
• journeys & trips: course (development), hegira (and hejira), odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other), path (a path can turn), return (point of no return), road (turn in the road, etc.), saga (n), trajectory (n), turn (development)
• mechanism: pivotal, point (tipping point), turning point
• moon: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• movement: come (something can come along), go (development), lead (one thing leads to another), progress (v), roller coaster (development), stand (stand still / progress)
• odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other)
• pendulum: pendulum (reversal), swing (development)
• physics: trajectory (n)
• plane: land (plane lands)
• radio: tuned (stay tuned)
• religion: hejira (and hejira)
• rope: play (play / play out)
• scale: scale (tip the scales)
• sea: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.), wave (wave of the future, etc.)
• season: season (time)
• shape: circle (a circle can close), circle (full circle)
• sports & games: game (game-changer), homestretch (n), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), roller coaster (development)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand still / development)
• storm: storm (calm before the storm)
• theater: act (development), climax (n), finale (n), script (to script), stage (set the stage)
• tide: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.)
• verb: corner (turn the corner), go (development), land (plane lands), lead (one thing leads to another), play (play out), progress (v), scale (tip the scales), stage (set the stage), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tuned (stay tuned), turn (take a turn), turn out (develop), unfold (develop), wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• water: wave (wave of the future, etc.)
• wave: wave (wave of the future, etc.)
• weight: scale (tip the scales), stand (stand still / development), straw (the last straw)

DIFFICULTY, EASINESS & EFFORT (1)
• allusion: cat (bell the cat), herculean (adj), Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, Sisyphean (adj)
• animal: beaver (v), cat (bell the cat)
• arm: push (summit push, etc.), pushover
• back: back (carry something on one’s back), backbreaking
• baseball: home run (swing for a home run, etc.)
• basketball: full-court press, slam-dunk
• blood: blood (effort)
• boat: hand (all hands on deck), sail (sail to victory, etc.), sailing (smooth sailing)
• boundary: limits (push something to its limits)
• burden: back (carry something on one’s back), drag (v)
• cat: cat (bell the cat)
• circus: acrobatics (n), tightrope
• corner: corner (cut corners)
• direction: hill (difficulty), uphill (difficult), upstream (swim upstream)
• distance: mile (the extra mile)
• epithet: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• explosion: blowout (n)
• farming & agriculture: plow (plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
• finger: finger (lift a finger)
• food & drink: cakewalk (dance), picnic (n)
• fruits & vegetables: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
• ground, terrain & land: rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
• hand: hand (have one's hands full), hand (all hands on deck)
• history: Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, slave (v)
• horse: hands down (easily)
• journeys & trips: corner (cut corners), path (tough / easy path, etc.), road (long road), road (tough / easy road, etc.), shortcut (n), slog (long hard slog, etc.), way (go out of one's way)
• mechanism: gear up (v), grind (grind away, etc.), grind (daily grind, etc.), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), grinding (grind down)
• military: battle (uphill battle, etc.), last-ditch (adj)
• money: taxing (adj)
• mountains & hills: hill (difficulty), mountain (difficulty), Mount Everest (and Everest), uphill (difficult)
• movement: coast (attain), shortcut (n)
• music: stop (pull out all the stops)
• orientation: upstream (swim upstream)
• person: hand (all hands on deck)
• place: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• religion: heaven (move heaven and earth)
• river: upstream (swim upstream)
• snow & ice: sledding (tough sledding)
• sports & games: bar (bar is set high, etc.), full-court press, home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops), marathon (effort), slam-dunk, softball (n)
• speech: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
• standing, sitting & lying: bend (bend over backwards)
• target: target (easy target)
• tongue: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
• tree: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
• verb: beaver (v), bend (bend over backwards), cat (bell the cat), coast (attain), drag (v), finger (lift a finger), gear up (v), grind (grind away, etc.), grind (grind down), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops), limits (push something to its limits), plow (plow through, etc.), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scramble (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), slave (v), slog (v), stop (pull out all the stops), waltz (attain), way (go out of one’s way)
• walking, running & jumping: marathon (effort), park (walk in the park), scramble (v), slog (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), walkover (n)
• weapon: target (easy target)
• weight: back (carry something on one’s back)

**DIRECTION (1) (see also course)**
• allusion: breadcrumb
• astronomy: lodestar, lodestone
• boat: adrift, chart (v), lighthouse, navigate (v), navigation, sea (at sea), rudderless, tack (v), tack (n)
• fire: beacon (n)
• foot: footstep (in the footsteps)
• ground, terrain & land: landmark, negotiate (terrain, etc.), uncharted (adj), way (know one’s way around)
• infrastructure: lighthouse
• journeys & trips: beacon (n), bearing (direction), chart (v), course (change course, etc.), course (course of action, etc.), course (direction), crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), go (direction), guide (v), guide (person), guide (nonperson), head (into the future), headed, landmark, lead (one thing leads to another), light (guiding light), lodestar, lodestone, lost (direction), mislead (v), misleading, navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), plot (v), road
(turn in the road, etc.), stray (direction), uncharted (adj), way (lose one's way), way (find one's way), way (direction), way (the wrong way), way (know one's way around)

- light & dark: light (guiding light), lighthouse
- map: navigate (v), plot (v), uncharted (adj)
- movement: follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footprint (in the footsteps), head (into the future), lead (one thing leads to another), meander (v), move (direction)
- person: guide (person)
- sea: lighthouse, sea (at sea), uncharted (adj)
- shape: corkscrew (v), corkscrew (shape)
- sheep: bellwether
- tools & technology: bearing (direction), compass (moral compass), lodestone
- train: track (direction), track (on track)
- verb: chart (v), corkscrew (v), course (change course, etc.), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), go (direction), guide (v), head (into the future), meander (v), mislead (v), move (direction), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), plot (v), stray (direction), tack (v), way (lose one’s way), way (find one’s way)

DIRECTION (2) (see also position)

- acceptance & rejection: turn down (v)
- accusation & criticism: come down on (v), take down (v), takedown (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: apex (achievement), elevate (v), elevation (n), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rise (rising), top (on / at / to the top)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bring around (v), down (down for something), go (go along), side (on one’s side / time), side (on one’s side / person), turn (turn against / on something), up (up for something)
- alternatives & choices: turn (turn to something, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: straighten out (v), turn around (v)
- amount: bottomless (adj)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: bottom (get to the bottom of something), drill (analysis)
- appearance & disappearance: arise (v), come forward (v), come up (appearance), fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.), pop up (v), turn out (rally), turnout
- appearance & reality: underneath (reality)
- area: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory)
- attempt: go (go for something), go (have a go at something)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- avoidance & separation: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v)
- bases: behind (basis), bottom (get to the bottom of something), underlie, underlying
- behavior: above (above the fray, etc.), aboveboard, beneath (that's beneath you, etc.), descend (v), fall down (v), fray (above the fray), go (behavior), ground (high ground), gutter (in the gutter), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), rise (rise above something), road (the high road), sink (behavior), standard (higher standard), stoop (behavior), straight (the straight and narrow), straight arrow (person), stray (behavior)
- center & periphery: fore (come to the fore), forefront (center), foreground (n)
- certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory)
- character & personality: buoyant (personality), crooked, high-minded (adj), shifty (adj), straight (honest), straight (the straight and narrow), straightforward, straight arrow, twisted (character), upstanding
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: circle back (v), come back (v), comeback (n), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (come and go), turnover (work)
- commitment & determination: down (down for something), go (go for something), live up to (something), up (up for something)
- competition: ahead (competition), dust (leave somebody in the dust)
- concealment & lack of concealment: hide (hide behind something), netherworld (n), underground, underworld
• conflict: side (conflict)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bypass (v), come forward (v), end run (n), go (let something go), go around (v), man up (v), retreat (withdraw), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
• consciousness & awareness: come (see something coming), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), sink (sink into a coma, etc.)
• control & lack of control: adrift, top (on top / control)
• corruption: twist (v), twisted (corruption)
• creation & transformation: turn (transform), turn out (create)
• curtailment: take down (v)
• death & life: fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen)
• decline: bottom (hit bottom), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crater (v), descend (v), descent (decline), dive (n), down (decline), downfall (n), drop (v), downhill, downturn (n), drop, fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (n), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall on / upon), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), falloff (n), free-fall (in free-fall), free-fall (n), gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.), low (decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), race (race to the bottom), sag (v), sink (decline), slide (n), slide (v), slip (v), slump (v), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), spiral (in a spiral), spiral (into a spiral), spiral (on a downward spiral), spiral (downward spiral, etc.), spiral (other), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
• destruction: bring down (v), crash (crash down), downfall (n), fell (v), topple (v)
• development: come (something can come along), go (development), lead (one thing leads to another), pivot (n), pivotal, point (tipping point), roller coaster (development), see (see something coming), seesaw (n), swing (swing around), turn (take a turn), turn (development), turning point, turn out (develop), twist (n), ups and downs
• difficulty, easiness & effort: hill (difficulty), uphill (difficult), upstream (swim upstream)
• direction: roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, step down (v), strike down (v), topple (v)
• division & connection: polarizing (adj), side (conflict)
• environment: netherworld (n), underground, underworld
• extent & scope: bottomless (adj), direction (in every direction), stratospheric
• failure, accident & impairment: astray (direction), fall through (v), sideways (go sideways), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), south (go south), stray (behavior), stray (direction), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), turn (wrong turn), west (go west)
• feeling, emotion & effect: buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyant (personality), buoyed, depression, down (feeling), downhearted, fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fall (an emotion can fall), fall (fall in love), feeling (sinking feeling), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), head (keep one’s head up), heart (heart sank), high (on a high), high (emotion), high-spirited, lift (n), lift (v), raise (feeling), retreat (withdraw), roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.), sink (sink into despair, etc.), sinking (sinking feeling, etc.), slide (v), up (feeling)
• flaws & lack of flaws: downside (n)
• functioning: down (functioning)
• future: ahead (future), approach (v), approaching, before (future), come (future), come (to come), come (see something coming), come (for a time to come), come up on, coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), forward (future), front (in front / future), head (into the future), headed, lie (lie ahead), look (look forward to something, etc.), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), train (future)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: turn in (give)
• growth & development: apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), arise (v), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the ascent), ascent, rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rise (on the rise), top (on / at / to the top)
• heart: downhearted, heart (heart sank)
• help & assistance: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)
• hierarchy: basement (hierarchy), ladder (hierarchy), tier (hierarchy)
importance & significance: burner (front burner), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), front (front and center)

increase & decrease: boost (v), boost (n), ceiling (high point), climb (increase), dial (dial down), dip (n), elevated, floor (low point), heighten (v), jack up (v), level (take something to a higher level), level off (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), rise (on the rise), rocket (increase), roller coaster (development), soar (v), skyrocket (increase), slip (v), spiral (downward or upward), spiraling (increase), stratospheric, up (increase), up (higher), upsurge (n), uptick (n), upturn (n), yo-yo (up and down)

involvement: get (get into something), leave (leave something alone)

mind: high-minded (adj)

movement: go (direction)

obstacles & impedance: bypass (v), end zone, go around (v), hump (n)

occurrence: fall (on Friday, etc.), fall (night fell, etc.), fall (silence fell, etc.)

oppression: fall (weight)

orientation: floor (pelvic floor, etc.), nose (orientation), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.), tail (orientation), upstage (v), upstream (swim upstream)

past & present: back (go back in time, etc.), backwards (past), behind (in the past), circle back (v), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), hindsight (with hindsight), look (look back), throwback (n), walk (walk somebody back), yesteryear

perception, perspective & point of view: forward-looking

person: guide (person)

position, policy & negotiation: back (back and forth), give-and-take

possession: fall (fall into the hands, etc.)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the descent), ascent (other), bottom (hit bottom), bring down (v), descent (decline), downfall (n), fall (fall from power, etc.), go (come and go), gone (those days are gone, etc.), height (at the height), in (currency), out (currency), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, plunge (noun / decline), return (animals, etc.), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), step down (v), strike down (v), throwback (n), top (on / at / to the top), topple (v)

priority: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), front (front and center), front burner

progress & lack of progress: adrift, advance (v), advance (n), ahead (progress), ahead (adv), ahead (get ahead, etc.), backwards (progress), behind (progress), breakthrough (n), circle (go in circles), climb (progress), forward (move forward, etc.), left behind (progress), look up, march (march ahead, etc.), move (move up), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), runaround, setback (progress), tail (chase one’s tail), wind (wind its way)

proximity: front (in front / proximity)

reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: behind (put something behind), bottom (get to the bottom of something), go (let something go)

reputation: high (high regard)

resiliency: behind (put something behind), head (keep one’s head up), pick (pick oneself up)

resistance, opposition & defeat: fall (defeat), uprising (resistance)

responsibility: fall (devolve), live up to (something), man up (v)

reversal: about-face (in an about-face), about-face, about-turn, backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), boomerang (v), climb down (v), course (reverse course), flip (v), flip-flopping (reversal), overturn (v), overturned, pivot (n), retreat (reverse), row (row back), turnaround (reversal), turn around (v), turnaround

route: climb (roads, etc.)

sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: go-ahead, ground (high ground), high (on high)

searching & discovery: bottom (get to the bottom of something), come up with (discovery)

sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: crooked, straight (honest)
• social interaction: go (go along)
• society: netherworld (n), underground, underworld
• speech: shooter (straight shooter), straight-talking
• starting, going, continuing & ending: drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out, ahead (go ahead, etc.), level off (v), step down (v)
• strategy: bypass (v), go around (v)
• subterfuge: aboveboard, bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), shifty (adj), table (under the table), underhand (or underhanded)
• success & failure: fall (fall short), fall down (v), fall through (v), let down (fail)
• superiority & inferiority: above (above the law, etc.)
• survival, persistence & endurance: buoyed, sink (sink into debt, etc.)
• taxonomy & classification: fall (fall into a category, etc.)
• time: go (time), side (on one’s side / time), time (time has passed)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), time (past time), up (your time is up, etc.)
• unanimity & consensus: go (go along)
• warning: heads-up (warning)

DIRECTING (1)
• animal: drive (v), goad (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), husband (v)
• boat: pilot (v), steward (role)
• circus: ringmaster (person)
• food & drink: feed (direct)
• health & medicine: inject (v), injection (n)
• journeys & trips: guide (v), shepherd (v), take (take somebody somewhere)
• mechanism: steer (v)
• music: orchestrate (v), orchestrated
• person: ringmaster (person), steward (role)
• plane: steward (role)
• pumped: pumped (directed)
• sea: lighthouse
• sheep: shepherd (v)
• speech: goad (v)
• sports & games: coach (v)
• theater: stage (v), staged (directed)
• tide: surge (transitive verb)
• train: steward (role)
• verb: channel (direct), drive (v), feed (direct), funnel (v), goad (v), guide (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), husband (v), inject (v), orchestrate (v), pilot (v), plow (put), pour (put), pump (direct), shepherd (v), steer (v), shot (call the shots), siphon (v), stage (v), surge (transitive verb), take (take somebody somewhere), whip (violence)
• violence: goad (v), whip (violence)
• water: channel (direct), channeled, drip-fed (v), funnel (direct), infusion (n), pour (put), pump (direct), pumped (directed), siphon (v), surge (transitive verb)
• weapon: shot (call the shots)
• whip: whip (violence)

DISMISSAL, REMOVAL & RESIGNATION (1) (see also inclusion & exclusion)
• air: filter (v)
• animal: pasture (put out to pasture), perch (knock something off its perch)
• arm: cast aside (v), pushed (pushed out), throw out (v), toss out (v)
• atmosphere: wind (throw something to the wind)
• ax: ax (n), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (n), cut (v), slash (v), slash-and-burn (adj), trim (v)
• bird: perch (knock something off its perch)
• blade: ax (n), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), cut (n), cut (v), cut off (v), scrape (v), shave (removal), slash (v), trim (v), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• boat: jettison (v), jettisoned
• books & reading: shelve (v)
• breathing: blow off (v)
• burden: pull out (v)
• cards: discard (v), fold (v)
• clothing & accessories: boot (get the boot), boot out (v), strip (v), stripped
• creature: exorcise
• direction: drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, step down (v), strike down (v), topple (v)
• doors & thresholds: door (shown the door, etc.)
• equilibrium & stability: topple (v)
• farming & agriculture: prune (v), weed out (v), slash-and-burn (adj)
• fire: slash-and-burn (adj)
• foot: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
• hair: shave (removal), shed (v)
• hand: brush (brush off), brush-off
• health & medicine: amputate (remove)
• horse: pasture (put out to pasture), unseat (v)
• hygiene: filter (v)
• infrastructure: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
• insect: mothball (v)
• knife: cut (n), cut (v), scrape (v), slash (v), trim (v), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• leg: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
• manufacturing: scrap (v), scrapped
• military: body count, coup (power), drummed out, guard (changing of the guard)
• movement: shake (remove)
• person: outcast (person)
• pile: dump (v), dumped
• plant: prune (v), root out (v), transplant (n), weed out (v), uprooted
• religion: exorcise (v)
• river: swept away (removal)
• royalty: dethrone (v)
• ruins: topple (v)
• sea: swept away (removal)
• society: banished, banishment (n), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, outcast (person), wilderness (in the wilderness), wilderness (society)
• sports & games: bench (v)
• table: table (off the table)
• throwing, putting & planting: outcast (person)
• tools & technology: ax (n), chainsaw (n)
• tree: root out (v), uprooted
• verb: bench (v), blow off (v), boot out (v), brush (brush off), cast aside (v), cut off (v), dethrone (v), discard (v), dismantle (v), drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), dump (v), exorcise (v), erase (v), flush (remove), fold (v),
jettison (v), kick out (v), lift (amelioration), mothball (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), pasture (put out to pasture), plug (pull the plug), pull out (v), prune (v), retire (v), root out (v), scrap (v), scrape (v), shake (remove), shave (removal), shed (v), shelf (v), slash (v), step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v), strike down (v), strip (v), throw out (v), topple (v), toss out (v), trim (v), weed out (v), wind (throw something to the wind)

- walking, running & jumping: step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v)
- water: dissolve (terminate), dissolved, filter (v), flush (remove), plug (pull the plug), swept away (removal)
- weight: lift (amelioration)
- wind: wind (throw something to the wind)
- window: window (out the window)
- work & duty: retire (v)
- writing & spelling: erase (v), erased, write (write out)

**DISRUPTION (1)** (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; help & assistance; sanctioning, authority & non-conformity; unanimity & consensus)

- allusion: Jacobin
- boat: boat (rock the boat)
- cards: deck (re-shuffle the deck)
- earthquake: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- equilibrium & stability: balance (off balance), destabilizing (adj), earthquake (effect), overturn (v), rattle (disrupt), reel (v), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shake up (v), shake-up (n), stagger (v), upheaval (disruption)
- explosion: blow up (destroy / disrupt), grenade (disruption)
- foot: toe (step on toes)
- ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
- head: head (turn something on its head)
- history: Jacobin, revolution (n), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v)
- horse: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
- house: house (clean house)
- hygiene: house (clean house)
- mixture: scramble (disrupt)
- movement: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
- orientation: head (turn something on its head), upend (v), upside down
- scale: balance (off balance)
- sensation: toe (step on toes)
- sound: rattle (disrupt), tumult (disruption)
- sports & games: game (game-changer)
- toe: toe (step on toes)
- verb: blow up (destroy / disrupt), head (turn something on its head), house (clean house), overturn (v), rattle (disrupt), reel (v), revolutionize (v), rock (v), roil (v), scramble (disrupt), shake (disrupt), shake up (v), stagger (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), toe (step on toes), upend (v)
- violence: Jacobin
- walking, running & jumping: reel (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
- water: roil (v)

**DISTANCE (1)**

- astronomy: light year

**DISTANCE (2)**

- avoidance & separation: arm’s length (at arm’s length)
• behavior: far (too far), length (go to any lengths, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
• cost & benefit: mileage, way (go a long way)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: mile (the extra mile)
• extent & scope: way (go a long way)
• future: way (a long way off)
• restraint & lack of restraint: far (too far), length (go to any lengths, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
• time: long (time), long-run (adj), run (in / over the long run), way (a long way off)

**DIVISION & CONNECTION (1)** (see also acceptance & rejection; attraction & repulsion; avoidance & separation; inclusion & exclusion; relationship)

- allusion: iron curtain, Maginot Line, Paradise Lost (allusion)
- arm: embrace (v), embraced, reach (reach out)
- astronomy: cusp (on the cusp), orbit (n)
- atmosphere: drift (drift apart)
- boat: drift (drift apart)
- boundary: boundary (division), line (division), line (categories)
- bridge: bridge (n), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone
- cloth: intertwined, interwoven, knit (knit together), seamless, seamlessly, strand (connection), thread (connection), thread (v), tight-knit, weave together (v), woven
- destruction: torn
- direction: polarizing (adj), side (conflict)
- doors & thresholds: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
- earthquake: fault (fault line)
- electricity: insulated, plugged in / into
- family: brother (n), brotherhood, kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), orphaned, parent (relationship), twin (relationship)
- farming & agriculture: silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
- fence: fence (division)
- finger: touch (lose touch), touch (other)
- fortification: drawbridge (protection)
- gate: gate (society)
- ground, terrain & land: balkanization (n), barrier, chasm, crack (division), divide (n), fissure, gap (n), ground (common ground), ground (middle ground), rift (division)
- hand: hand in hand (go hand in hand)
- health & medicine: hip (joined at the hip)
- history: balkanization (n), iron curtain, Maginot Line
- insect: cocoon (isolation)
- island: insular (adj)
- leg: foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
- light & dark: daylight (division)
- line: foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), line (division), line (categories), straddle (connect)
- love, courtship & marriage: divorce (n), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married
- materials & substances: fractured (separated), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.)
- military: drawbridge (protection), Maginot Line
- mechanism: rupture (n)
- number: common denominator
- pendulum: suspended
- prep, adv, adj, particle: apart (division), between (come between, etc.)
• proximity: daylight (division), distance (n)
• religion: cloistered, Paradise Lost (allusion), schism (n)
• river: bridge (n), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone
• rope: bind (connect), tie (v), tied, tie together (v)
• sea: gulf (division), insular (adj)
• shadow: daylight (division)
• snow & ice: ice (break the ice)
• society: caste
• standing, sitting & lying: foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
• temperature: ice (break the ice)
• tools & technology: connect (v), coupled, disconnect (n), hook up (connect), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
• train: track (across the tracks, etc.)
• verb: bind (connect), bridge (v), connect (v), drift (drift apart), embrace (v), hook up (connect), ice (break the ice), knit (knit together), reach (reach out), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), straddle (connect), thread (v), tie (v), tie together (v), touch (lose touch), weave together (v), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
• wall: wall (obstacle)
• wedge: wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
• wind: drift (drift apart)

DIVISION (in an organization) (see also taxonomy & classification)
• arm: arm (arm of an organization)
• bird: wing (division)
• family: parent (parent company, etc.)
• military: camp (n)

DOCUMENT (2)
• amelioration & renewal: lease (lease on life)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: license (n), passport (n)

DOG (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• activity: bristle (v)
• affliction: bird-dog (v), dog (afflict), dogged (hounded), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), hounded (dogged)
• avoidance & separation: bay (at bay)
• behavior: rabid, rabidly
• character & personality: feisty (adj), hot dog (person)
• coercion & motivation: dog (attack dog), pit bull (dog)
• commitment & determination: dogged (determined), pit bull (dog), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• competition: dog-eat-dog, pack (competition), underdog (competition)
• conflict: back (get one’s back up, etc.), dogfight, hackles (raise hackles), roll over (v)
• constraint & lack of constraint: leash (on a leash)
• control & lack of control: leash (on a leash)
• dominance & submission: lapdog, poodle (n)
• eagerness & reluctance: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• enthusiasm: hound (autograph hound, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: bristle (v), hackles (raise hackles)
• hierarchy: top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
• initiation: unleash (v), unleashed
• insult: dog (insult)
• predation: dog-eat-dog, heel (nip at somebody’s heels)
• progress & lack of progress: tail (chase one’s tail)
• protection & lack of protection: watchdog (n)
• punishment & recrimination: doghouse (in the doghouse)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: back (get one’s back up, etc.), roll over (v)
• shape: dogleg (shape)
• situation: doghouse (in the doghouse)
• sound: bark (v)
• speech: bark (v)
• strength & weakness: underdog (competition)
• superiority & inferiority: underdog (competition)
• success & failure: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• surveillance: watchdog (n)
• warning: watchdog (n)

DOMINANCE & SUBMISSION (1) (see also conflict; resistance, opposition & defeat; superiority & inferiority)
• animal: back down (v), ground (hold / stand one’s ground), lapdog (n), poodle (n), tail (turn tail)
• back: back down (v)
• dog: lapdog, poodle (n)
• eye: blink (v)
• gesture: back down (v), blink (v)
• ground, terrain & land: ground (hold / stand one’s ground)
• hand: hand (upper hand)
• religion: bow (v), kowtow (v)
• standing, sitting & lying: back down (v), cower (v), supine (adj)
• verb: back down (v), blink (v), bow (v), cower (v), kowtow (v), tail (turn tail)

DOORS & THRESHOLDS (2)
• access & lack of access: door (access), foot (foot in the door), shut out (v)
• computer: trapdoor (computers)
• concealment & lack of concealment: trapdoor (computers)
• configuration: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
• coming, arriving, staying & leaving & returning: exit (n), revolving door, usher in (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: door (shown the door, etc.)
• division & connection: locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
• measurement: threshold (below the threshold), threshold (measurement)
• opportunities & possibilities: door (opportunity), door (hold the door open, etc.), door (leave the door open), door (get one’s foot in the door), door (close a door, etc.)
• portal: door (portal), portal (entrance), threshold (cross the threshold), threshold (portal)
• proximity: door (knock at / on the door), doorstep (on / at the doorstep), threshold (on the threshold)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: door (closure)
• subterfuge: trapdoor (computers)

DRIVING FORCE (1) (see also force; oppression; power; superiority & inferiority)
• atmosphere: wind (wind of change, etc.)
• blade: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
• dam: powerhouse
• electricity: powerhouse (n)
• engine: drive (v), driver (in the driver’s seat), engine (driving force)
• fist: fist (armored fist, etc.)
• horse: outrider (n)
• journeys & trips: pioneer (person), way (lead the way)
• military: charge (lead the charge), front line (on the front line), front line, point man (person), trench (in the trenches), vanguard, vanguard (in the vanguard), vanguard (other)
• person: pioneer (person), point man (person)
• sports & games: pace-setter
• tools & technology: wedge (edge of the wedge)
• train: train (hype train, etc.)
• verb: charge (lead the charge), drive (v), spearhead (v), way (lead the way)
• walking, running & jumping: pace-setter
• weapon: spear (tip of the spear), spearhead (v), spearhead (n)
• wedge: wedge (edge of the wedge)
• wind: wind (wind of change, etc.)

EAGERNESS & RELUCTANCE (1) (see also action, inaction & delay; avoidance & separation; confronting, dealing with & ignoring things)

• animal: chops (lick one’s chops), dog (dog won’t hunt), pounce (v)
• bodily process: drool (v), mouthwatering (adj), salivate (v)
• burden: drag (drag somebody into something)
• dog: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• food & drink: drool (v), hungry (adj), mouthwatering (adj), stomach (eagerness)
• foot: feet (cold feet), foot-dragging, heel (dig in one’s heels)
• hand: handwringing (noun)
• heart: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted), heart (eagerness and reluctance)
• heel: heel (dig in one’s heels)
• horse: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), horse (hold your horses)
• hunting: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• journeys & trips: go (not go there), path (beat a path), road (go down that road, etc.)
• love, courtship & marriage: coy (adj), marriage (shotgun marriage), shy (adj)
• military: draft (v)
• mouth: chops (lick one’s chops), salivate (v)
• movement: go (not go there), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), road (go down that road, etc.), spring (spring into action, etc.)
• sensation: itchy
• sex: slut (enthusiasm)
• sports & games: gun (jump the gun)
• stomach: stomach (eagerness)
• temperature: cold feet, lukewarm (adj)
• verb: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), draft (v), drag (drag somebody into something), drool (v), gun (jump the gun), heel (dig in one’s heels), horse (hold your horses), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), path (beat a path), pounce (v), salivate (v), spring (spring into action, etc.)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), spring (spring into action, etc.)
• weapon: gun-shy

EAR (2)

• attention, scrutiny & promotion: ear (have somebody’s ear), ear (attention)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ear (turn a deaf ear)
• consciousness & awareness: deaf, ear (fall on deaf ears)
• flaws & lack of flaws: tin-eared (adj)
• proper name: ear (Ear of the Wind, etc.)
• resemblance: ear (ear of corn, etc.)
• surveillance: ear (surveillance)

EARTH & WORLD (2)
• area: sphere (in the sphere), world (exploration)
• character & personality: earthiness (character)
• computer: blogosphere (in the blogosphere), blogosphere (other)
• environment: world (in the world), world (into a world), world (particular)
• extent & scope: earth (extent), world (extent)
• feeling, emotion & effect: world (on top of the world)
• fantasy & reality: world (fantasy)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: world (lost world)
• proper name: world (Disney World, etc.)
• searching & discovery: earth (extent)

EARTHQUAKE (2) (see also ground, terrain & land; landslide; mountains & hills, volcano)
• amount & effect: earthshaking (adj), seismic (adj), tectonic (adj), tremor (n)
• disruption: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• division & connection: fault (fault line)
• effect: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, tremor (n), upheaval (disruption)
• equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), upheaval (disruption)
• evidence: tremor (n)
• extent & scope: earthshaking (adj), seismic (adj), tectonic (adj)
• feeling, emotion & effect: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, upheaval (disruption)
• initiation: tremor (n)
• location: epicenter

EDUCATION (1)
• epithet: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), West Point (epithet)
• military: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), West Point (epithet)
• school & education: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), West Point (epithet)

EFFECT (1)
• atmosphere: fallout (effect)
• boxing: punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• cooking: stir (effect)
• earthquake: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, tremor (n), upheaval (disruption)
• equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• explosion: shock wave, wave (blast wave, etc.)
• force: impact (effect)
• ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• house: home (hit home)
• nuclear energy: fallout (effect)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nerve (strike a nerve, etc.)
• sound: chord (strike a chord), repercussion (n), reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
• tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
• verb: chord (strike a chord), home (hit home), needle (move the needle, etc.), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), reverberate (v), reverberation (n), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• volcano: tremor (n)
• water: ripple (v), ripple (n), splash (effect)
• weight: punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)

ELECTRICITY (2)
• amelioration & renewal: battery (recharge one's batteries)
• attraction & repulsion: lightning rod
• avoidance & separation: insulated
• character & personality: live wire (person)
• comprehension & incomprehension: lightning bolt (comprehension)
• danger: rail (third rail)
• division & connection: insulated, plugged in / into
• driving force: powerhouse (n)
• failure, accident & impairment: short-circuit (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
• feeling, emotion & effect: amped (feeling), electric (feeling), electrify (v), galvanize (v), lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), shock (v), shock (in shock), shock (feeling), shocked (adj), shocker (n), shocking (feeling, emotion and effect), thunderstruck (adj)
• increase & decrease: amp up (v), step up (increase)
• initiation: galvanize (v), spark plug
• isolation & remoteness: insulate (v), insulated, insulation
• power: powerhouse (n)
• protection & lack of protection: insulate (v), insulated, insulation
• strength & weakness: amped (strength), powerhouse (n)

EMPATHY & LACK OF EMPATHY (1)
• boat: boat (in the same boat)
• clothing & accessories: shoe (in somebody's shoes)
• feeling, emotion & effect: stone (heart of stone)
• heart: coldhearted (adj), heart (empathy), heartless, stone-hearted
• shoulder: shoulder (a shoulder to cry on)
• temperature: coldhearted (adj), coldly

ENGINE (2) (see also manufacturing; mechanism; tools & technology)
• activity: overdrive (in / into overdrive)
• amelioration & renewal: tune-up (n)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
• control & lack of control: driver (in the driver’s seat)
• driving force: drive (v), driver (in the driver’s seat), engine (driving force)
• failure, accident & impairment: flameout, flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled
• feeling, emotion & effect: revved (revved up)
• functioning: sputter (v), stall (v), stalled
• haste: gas (take one’s foot off the gas)
• increase & decrease: rev up (v), turbocharge (v)
• initiation: jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v)
• power: turbocharge (v)
• progress & lack of progress: stall (v), stalled
• readiness & preparedness: tune-up (n)
• searching & discovery: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
• speed: downshift (v), gas (take one’s foot off the gas), turbocharge (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: downshift (v), flameout, flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v), stall (v), stalled, warmed-up
• strength & weakness: turbocharge (v)
• verb: turbocharge (v)

ENTHUSIASM (1)
• addiction: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), addictive (adj), crave (v), fix (n), habit, high (enthusiasm), hooked, junkie (person)
• animal: bookworm, hound (autograph hound, etc.), pet (pet cause, etc.), rat (lab rat, etc.)
• baby: baby (relationship)
• books & reading: bookworm
• dog: hound (autograph hound, etc.)
• fish: hooked
• feeling: baby
• food & drink: crave (v), glutton (person), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
• health & medicine: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), bitten (enthusiasm), bug (enthusiasm), crave (v), delirious (adj), delirium (n), disease (enthusiasm), flu (enthusiasm), infection (enthusiasm), junkie (person), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), mania (n)
• love, courtship & marriage: fall (fall in love), infatuated (enthusiasm), romance (n)
• mental health: craze (n), crazed, crazy (enthusiasm), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), mania (n), obsessed
• object: thing (one's thing)
• person: acolyte (person), addict (chess addict, etc.), bookworm, cheerleader (person), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), glutton (person), hound (autograph hound, etc.), junkie (person), missionary (person), rat (lab rat, etc.)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: into (be into something)
• rat: rat (lab rat, etc.)
• religion: acolyte (person), cathedral (other), church (n), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), religion (enthusiasm), pilgrimage (trip), shrine (reverence), worship (v)
• school & education: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
• sensation: itch (enthusiasm)
• sex: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately, slut (enthusiasm)
• speech: pitch (promote)
• taste: distaste (n), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
• verb: crave (v), pitch (promote), worship (v)

ENVIRONMENT (1) (see also area; situation)
• air: air (environment), air (in the air), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (environment), weather (environment)
• allusion: Dantesque (adj), Dickensian, frog (frog in boiling water), never-never land, Promised Land
• animal: frog (frog in boiling water), hornet’s nest, snake pit, zoo (environment)
• astronomy: firmament (n), universe
• atmosphere: air (environment), air (in the air), atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (environment), weather (environment)
• Bible: Garden of Eden, Promised Land
• bird: incubator
• cloth: fabric (environment)
• container: cauldron (n), crucible (n)
• desert: desert, oasis (environment), sand (political sands, etc.)
• direction: netherworld (n), underground, underworld
• earth & world: sphere (in the sphere), world (in the world), world (into a world), world (particular)
• fire: cauldron (n), crucible (n), furnace (n)
• fish: fish (fish out of water), fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other)
• frog: frog (frog in boiling water)
• ground, terrain & land: badlands (environment), contour (n), desert (environment), ecosystem (n), jungle (n), landscape (n), lay of the land, morass (n), oasis (environment), sand (political sands, etc.), swamp (fever swamp), terrain (area), territory (area)
• heating water: cauldron (n)
• history: wild West
• hygiene: cesspool (n)
• insect: beehive (activity), hornet’s nest
• island: island (island of affluence, etc.)
• jungle: jungle (competition)
• manufacturing: crucible (n)
• mental health: bedlam, snake pit, warehouse (neglect)
• military: no man's land (war and violence), war zone, zone (combat zone)
• pressure: pressure cooker
• religion: Dantesque (adj), Garden of Eden, heaven (environment), hell (living hell, etc.), hell (situation), hellhole, limbo (in limbo), paradise, Promised Land, purgatory (n)
• school & education: playground
• sea: island (island of affluence, etc.), sea (in a sea), sea (environment)
• snake: snake pit
• swamp: swamp (fever swamp)
• temperature: cauldron (n), crucible (n), frog (frog in boiling water), furnace (n)
• warehouse: warehouse (neglect)
• water: fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other), frog (frog in boiling water), sea (in a sea), sea (environment), swamp (fever swamp)
• weather & climate: atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (environment), microclimate, weather (environment)
• zoo: zoo (environment)

EPITHET (1)
• basketball: Michael Jordan (epithet)
• boat: ship (ship of state, etc.), ship (ship of the desert)
• boxing: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• creature: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
• death & life: graveyard (graveyard of the Turks, etc.), killer (silent killer, etc.)
• family: father (father of India, etc.), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.)
• ground, terrain & land: rock (support)
• history: Lawrence (T.E.), nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Stalingrad (epithet), Waterloo
• infrastructure: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.)
• justice: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)
• magic: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
• military: Lawrence (T.E.), Napoleon (of surgery, etc.), nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Stalingrad (epithet), Waterloo (epithet), West Point (epithet)
• mining: gold (black gold, etc.)
• money: Great Gatsby, Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
• mountains & hills: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• place: Paris (epithet)
• religion: Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.), Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)
• royalty: king (King of Beers, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.)
• school & education: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.)
• sea: pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), ship (ship of state, etc.), ship (ship of the desert)
• sports & games: Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.)
• volcano: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)

EPITHET (2)
• ability & lack of ability: Kipling (Rudyard), Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Napoleon (of surgery, etc.), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
• amount: Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
• attraction & repulsion: pied piper
• biodiversity: Amazon (epithet), Galapagos (epithet), lung (atmosphere), mother (Mother Nature), Noah’s Ark, rainforest (epithet), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
• canal: Venice (epithet)
• conflict: Lawrence (T.E.), Stalingrad (epithet)
• control & lack of control: Lady Macbeth (epithet)
• creation & transformation: Edison (Thomas Alva), father (father of India, etc.), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), mother (mother of invention, etc.)
• danger: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• death & life: killer (silent killer, etc.)
• destruction: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), graveyard (graveyard of the Turks, etc.), killer (silent killer, etc.)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• education: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), West Point (epithet)
• fate, fortune & chance: miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.)
• force: express (Pineapple Express, etc.)
• isolation & remoteness: hermit (epithet), North Korea (epithet)
• knowledge & intelligence: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
• migration: Ellis Island (epithet), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.)
• money: Great Gatsby, Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
• oppression: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.)
• origin: birthplace, cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
• place: bowl (Vietnam’s rice bowl, etc.), Detroit (India’s Detroit, etc.)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
• punishment & recrimination: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)
• relationship: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), mother (mother earth)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• route: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), alley (Bat Alley, etc.), alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), alley (Death Alley, etc.), expressway (expressway to death, etc.), road (the Silk Road, etc.)
• ruins: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)
• sequence: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
• sex: Casanova
• size: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• steel: Ruhr Valley
• subterfuge: nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.)
• superlative: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), capital (capital of crime, etc.), Carnegie Hall (epithet), Christmas, golden (golden girl, boy), king (King of Beers, etc.), Obama (Russia’s Obama, etc.), Paris (epithet), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), Super Bowl, team (dream team)
• transportation: ship (ship of the desert)
• violence: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)
• weather & climate: mother (Mother Nature)
• worth & lack of worth: gold (black gold, etc.)

EQUILIBRIUM & STABILITY (1)
• boat: boat (rock the boat), keel (even keel), ship (right the ship, etc.)
• earthquake: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), upheaval (disruption)
• foot: foot (one foot planted)
• ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), footing (find one’s footing, etc.), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.), upheaval (disruption)
• orientation: upend (v), upside down
• scale: balance (v), balance (out of balance), balance (off balance), balance (work & job, etc.), balance (n), balanced, balance of power, counterbalance (n), disequilibrium (n), equilibrium (n)
• verb: balance (v), lurch (v), reel (v), ship (right the ship, etc.), stumble (v), trip up (v), upend (v)
• walking, running & jumping: footing (find one’s footing, etc.), lurch (v), reel (v), stride (in stride), stumble (v), stumble (n), trip up (v)

EQUILIBRIUM & STABILITY (2) (see also foot; heel)
• amelioration & renewal: counterbalance (v), counterbalance (n), right (right a wrong, etc.), stabilize (v)
• character & personality: levelheaded
• commitment & determination: waver (v), unwavering (adj)
• destruction: topple (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: topple (v)
• disruption: balance (off balance), destabilizing (adj), earthquake (effect), overturn (v), rattle (disrupt), reel (v), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shake up (v), shake-up (n), stagger (v), upheaval (disruption)
• effect: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• fate, fortune & chance: balance (hang in the balance), teeter (v)
• feeling, emotion & effect: destabilizing (adj), earthquake (effect), edge (on edge), feet (knock somebody off their feet), flattened, floored (emotion), head-spinning, rattled (feeling), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shaken (feeling), stagger (v), upheaval (disruption)
• flaws & lack of flaws: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), disequilibrium (n), shaky (equilibrium), solid (adj), sure-footed (adj), unstable (adj), wobbly (adj)
• functioning: stability (n)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: topple (v)
• readiness & preparedness: balance (off balance), poised (adj)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: settle down (v)
• reversal: overturn (v), overturned

EROSION (2)
• decline: crumble (v), erode, eroding, erosion
• destruction: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration
• failure, accident & impairment: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration, erode (v), eroding, erosion

EUPHEMISM (1)
• burial: place (resting place)
• death & life: fallen (dead), fallen (the fallen), feet (feet first), dust (bite the dust), lose (through death), lost (death), pass away (v), passing (death), place (resting place)
• sex: bedroom (sex), bee (the birds and the bees)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin (save one’s skin)
• verb: dust (bite the dust), skin (save one’s skin)

**EVALUATION (see judgment)**

**EVIDENCE (1) (see also message; warning)**

• activity: alight
• animal: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave), rat (smell a rat)
• atmosphere: cloud (sign), glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
• bird: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
• chemistry: litmus test
• cloud: cloud (sign)
• earthquake: tremor (n)
• finger: fingerprint
• fire: fire (evidence), smoke (evidence)
• health & medicine: symptom
• hunting: trail (digital trail, etc.)
• light & dark: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
• mark: fingerprint, hallmark
• materials & substances: taint (n)
• mining: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
• object: calling card
• picture: illustration
• rat: rat (smell a rat)
• sign, signal, symbol: sign (n), signal (v), signpost
• sound: chord (resemblance)
• smell: rat (smell a rat), smell (evidence), sniff out (v), stench (n), whiff (n), wind (get / catch wind of something)
• speech: hint (n), speak (evidence), sniff (indicate), suggestion, telling
• verb: betray (v), reveal (v), signal (v), sniff out (v), speak (evidence), suggest (indicate), wind (get / catch wind of something)
• volcano: tremor (n)
• weapon: smoking gun
• wind: wind (get / catch wind of something)
• writing & spelling: signature, written (written on it, etc.)

**EXCLAMATION (2)**

• feeling, emotion & effect: wow (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: farewell (n)

**EXPERIENCE (1)**

• animal: greenhorn (person)
• blood: blood (young blood, etc.)
• boat: rope (learn the ropes, etc.), salt (sailor), wheelhouse (n)
• books & reading: story (war story)
• clothing & accessories: belt (under one's belt), hat (old hat)
• education: freshman (adj)
• eye: see (see action, etc.)
• food & drink: diet (n), medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), treat (in for a treat)
• hand: old hand (experience)
• hardness & softness: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)
• health & medicine: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• horizon: horizon (expand one’s horizons)
• horn: greenhorn (person)
• horse: ride (rough ride, etc.)
• infrastructure: alley (up one’s alley), lane (experience)
• journeys & trips: go (go through something), road (down a road before)
• love, courtship & marriage: coming (coming out), debutant (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
• meat: meat (fresh meat)
• mechanism: speed (up to speed)
• military: front line (on the front line), story (war story), stripe (n), trench (in the trenches), veteran (n), veteran (adj)
• movement: go (go through something), ride (rough ride, etc.), speed (up to speed)
• music: chops (expertise)
• person: adult (person), chaperon (person), greenhorn (person), grownup (person), stranger (no stranger)
• religion: baptism, baptized
• riding: ride (rough ride, etc.)
• rope: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
• school & education: schooled
• sex: coming (coming out), debutant (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
• sky: horizon (expand one’s horizons)
• sports & games: varsity (n)
• story: story (war story)
• taste: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine), salt (sailor), seasoned (adj), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
• verb: go (go through something), see (see action, etc.), taste (taste freedom, etc.)
• water: baptism, baptized, depth (out of one’s depth), feet (get one’s feet wet)

EXPERIMENTATION (1)
• animal: guinea pig
• atmosphere: flagpole (run something up the flagpole), float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
• balloon: float (a plan, etc.), floated, trial balloon
• chemistry: experiment (n), litmus test
• flags & banners: flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
• foot: toe (dip one’s toes)
• place: laboratory
• toe: toe (dip one’s toes)
• verb: toe (dip one’s toes), waters (test the waters)
• water: toe (dip one’s toes), waters (test the waters)

EXPLOSION (2) (see also fortification; military; weapon)
• activity: boom (jade boom, etc.), boom (increase), burst (activity)
• amelioration & renewal: defuse (v)
• amount & effect: blockbuster, bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n), bombshell (n)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: blow up (attention / verb), blowup (attention / noun), burst on / onto the scene, etc., explode (onto the scene, etc.)
• behavior: self-destructive (adj)
• character & personality: grenade (n), self-destructive (adj), time bomb (person)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: burst on / onto the scene, etc.
• computer: bomb (code bomb)
• conflict: blowup (conflict), fireworks (conflict)
• cost & benefit: boom (jade boom, etc.)
• danger: bomb (danger), booby trap, landmine, minefield, powder keg, tripwire (danger)
• destruction: blasted apart, blow up (destroy / disrupt), explode (destroy), implode (v), self-destructive (adj)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: blowout (n)
• disruption: blow up (destroy / disrupt), grenade (disruption)
• effect: shock wave, wave (blast wave, etc.)
• failure, accident & impairment: dud (n), fizzle (fizzle out)
• feeling, emotion & effect: blockbuster, blown away, blow up (emotion), bombshell (n), burst (burst into tears, etc.), erupt (feeling), explode (emotion), go off (v), Molotov cocktail, set off (feeling and emotion), shellshocked, shock wave, stack (blow one's stack), steam (v), top (blow one's top)
• flaws & lack of flaws: bombproof
• increase & decrease: boom (increase), explode (increase), exploding, explosion (increase), explosive (increase), blow up (attention / verb), blowup (attention / noun)
• initiation: blow up (attention / verb), blowup (attention / noun), blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), burst (burst into violence, etc.), detonate (v), dynamite (n), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explode (increase), explosion (violence, etc.), explosive (violence, etc.), fuse (n), go off (v), powder keg, set off (v), time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (initiation), volatile
• power: explosive (power)
• resemblance: bomb (roach bomb, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: blowback
• reversal: blowback, blow up (blow up in one's face), face (blow up in one's face)
• situation: time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
• sound: explosion (sound)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: fizzle (fizzle out)
• success & failure: blockbuster, dud (n)

EXTENT & SCOPE (1) (see also amount)
• arm: arm (long arm), far-reaching, reach (extent and scope), tentacle
• astronomy: light year
• atmosphere: sky-high, stratosphere, stratospheric
• bird: full-fledged (adj)
• blanket: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)
• boat: stem (from stem to stern)
• bodily process: yawning (adj)
• boundary: boundless
• cloth: blanket (blanket amnesty, etc.)
• direction: bottomless (adj), direction (in every direction), stratospheric
• distance: way (go a long way)
• earth & world: earth (extent), world (extent)
• earthquake: earthshaking (adj), seismic, tectonic
• fan: fan out (v)
• fish: hook (hook, line and sinker)
• flood: high-water (high-water mark)
• flying & falling: roof (through the roof)
• ground, terrain & land: earthshaking (adj), ground (cover ground)
• health & medicine: endemic (adj), epidemic
• horizon: horizon (extent and scope)
• house: roof (through the roof)
• map: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)
• materials & substances: stretch (extent)
• mechanism: full-on (adj)
• pendulum: sweeping, swing (in full swing)
• plant: tendril (growth)
• roof: roof (through the roof)
• school & education: extracurricular
• sea: high tide
• size: go (go big), small-minded
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin-deep, surface (scratch the surface)
• sky: horizon (extent and scope), sky-high
• standing, sitting & lying: sprawling (adj)
• teeth: teeth (to the teeth)
• theater: dramatic (extent), dramatically
• tide: high tide
• tools & technology: compass (within / outside the compass)
• verb: deepen (v), go (go big), ground (cover ground), sound (measure), surface (scratch the surface)
• water: deep (extent and scope), deepen (v), depth (extent), shallow, sound (measure), stretch (extent)
• weapon: scattershot (adj)

EYE (2)
• admiration & contempt: look (look up to somebody), look (look down on something), nose (look down one’s nose)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: look (analysis), microscope (under a microscope)
• appearance: eye (for the eyes), eye (eye candy), eyesore
• appearance & disappearance: peek (v), view (out of view)
• appearance & reality: eye (appearance and reality)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: eye (public eye), eye (attention), eyeball (attention), eye-catching, focus (v), focus (n), microscope (under a microscope), view (out of view), view (attention)
• character & personality: eye (character and personality)
• commitment & determination: blind (disregarding evidence, logic), blindly
• comprehension & incomprehension: see (comprehension)
• concealment & lack of concealment: hidden
• conflict: blink (v)
• consciousness & awareness: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blinded, blindsided, blind spot, blinder (n), blinkered (adj), clear-eyed (adj), envision (v), eye (open eyes, etc.), eye (closed eyes, etc.), eye-opener, eye-opening, see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), view (out of view)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: blind (noticing, understanding, judging), blind spot, blink (v), eye (turn a blind eye), look (look the other way), stare (stare at defeat, etc.)
• danger: evil eye
• dominance & submission: blink (v)
• experience: see (see action, etc.)
• fate, fortune & chance: blind (not controlled by intelligence)
• feeling, emotion & effect: blink (v), eyebrow (raise eyebrows), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eye-popping, eye-roll (dismissal)
• fictive meeting & seeing: see (a date can see something), stare (stare at defeat, etc.)
• flaws & lack of flaws: black eye
• future: horizon (on the horizon), look (it looks like, etc.), look (look forward to something, etc.), myopia (n), myopic (adj), see (see something coming), see (future), sight (in sight)
• involvement: eyeball (up to one's eyeballs)
• occurrence: see (a date can see, etc.)
• past & present: look (look back)
• perception, perspective & point of view: blinder (n), eye (perception), see (perceive), view (v), view (in view), view (in somebody's view), view (opinion), viewed, vision (n), visionary (adj), worm's-eye (adj)
• perception, perspective & point of view: blinded, blind spot, blinkered (adj), farsighted, myopia (n), myopic (adj), nearsighted, optics (n), shortsighted, view (perspective)
• progress & lack of progress: look up (v)
• proper name: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
• proximity: sight (in sight)
• readiness & preparedness: blindsided
• reference: see (refer to)
• resemblance: eye (resemblance), peek (v)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: stare down (v), stare-down (n)
• revenge: eye (an eye for an eye)
• searching & discovery: look (look for), look (look into something)
• shape: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
• sight: blind (hard to see, hidden), blind date, blinding, blind side (from the blind side), eye (v), eye (sight), eyeball (sight)
• social interaction: see (visit / meet)
• speed: blink (in the blink of an eye)
• subterfuge: eye (subterfuge), see (see through something), wink (n)
• surveillance: eagle eye, eye (surveillance)
• unanimity & consensus: eye (see eye to eye, etc.)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: eye (goal)

**FACE** (2)
• amelioration & renewal: facelift
• appearance: baby (baby face, etc.), face (appearance), game (game face), poker-faced
• appearance & disappearance: face (in the face of)
• commitment & determination: game (game face)
• concealment & lack of concealment: mask (drop the mask), mask (hide)
• conflict: face (conflict)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: face (look something in the face), face (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face (in the face of), face up (face up to something)
• feeling, emotion & effect: poker-faced
• fictive meeting & seeing: face (face anger, etc.)
• identity & nature: faceless
• insult: face (slap in the face), slap (slap in the face, etc.)
• face: frown (v), smile (v)
• representation: face (international face, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: face (in one's face), face (in the face of)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: frown (v), smile (v)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: face (concept)
• social interaction: face (concept), face-saving
FAILURE, ACCIDENT & IMPAIRMENT (1) (see also danger; decline; destruction; flaws & lack of flaws; success & failure)

- allusion: Waterloo
- animal: stray (direction), straw (the last straw), stray (behavior), stray (direction)
- baby: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
- ball: ball (drop the ball), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- baseball: strike out (v)
- birth: miscarriage (of justice, etc.)
- boat: aground (run aground), founder (v), rock (on the rocks), shipwreck (n), shoal (n)
- bodily process: hiccup (n)
- burden: strain (v)
- cards: overplay (v)
- cloth: fray (v), frayed, tatters (in tatters), unravel (fail)
- clothing & accessories: clotheslined, tatters (in tatters)
- crashes & collisions: crash (population crash, etc.), crash-land (v), shipwreck (n), T-bone (v), T-boned, wreck (v), wreck (train wreck), wreck (person)
- death & life: flatline (v)
- direction: astray (direction), down (functioning), fall through (v), sideways (go sideways), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), south (go south), stray (behavior), stray (direction), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), turn (wrong turn), west (go west)
- electricity: short-circuit (v)
- engine: flameout, flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled
- erosion: crumble (v), disintegrate (v), disintegration, erode (v), eroding, erosion
- explosion: dud (n), fizzle (fizzle out)
- film: dust (bite the dust)
- fire: flame (up in flames)
- fish: belly-up (adj), dead (dead in the water)
- football: fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- fruits & vegetables: banana (n), lemon (n)
- ground, terrain & land: crack (fall through the cracks, etc.)
- hand: fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
- head: head (down on one’s head)
- health & medicine: malpractice (n), miscarriage (of justice, etc.), misdiagnose (v)
- history: Chernobyl, Waterloo
- horse: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
- house: roof (a roof can cave in)
- infrastructure: buckle (give way), collapse (n), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), pothole (noun), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v)
- journeys & trips: dead end, pothole (n), turn (wrong turn), way (lose one’s way)
- letters & characters: T-bone (v), T-boned
- light & dark: tarnish (v), tarnished
- materials & substances: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), crack (v), fracture (failure), meltdown (n), snap (v), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), unglued
- meat: butcher (v)
- mechanism: break down (functioning), broken (failure), fall apart (v), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), grind (grind down), grind (grind to a halt), gum up (v), rupture (n), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled, wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.), wrench (throw a wrench)
• military: casualty (n), Waterloo
• mining: cave in (v), undermine (v)
• movement: falter (v), go (go wrong), momentum (lose momentum), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), turn (wrong turn)
• nuclear energy: Chernobyl, meltdown (n)
• person: wreck (person)
• place: Chernobyl
• plane: crash-land (v), flameout, flame out (v)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: down (functioning)
• roof: roof (a roof can cave in)
• ruins: buckle (give way), collapse (n), roof (a roof can cave in), tumble down (v), wreck (v), wreck (person)
• sea: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), shoal (n)
• shape: T-bone (v), T-boned
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: strain (v), stretch (v)
• sleep: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
• speech: tongue (slip of the tongue)
• sports & games: ball (drop the ball), baton (drop the baton), belly flop (n), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled, goal (own goal), miscue (n), overplay (v), strike out (v)
• tongue: tongue (slip of the tongue)
• tools & technology: screw up (v)
• train: derail (v), derailed, rail (off the rails), train (failure), wreck (train wreck)
• verb: aground (run aground), ball (drop the ball), break down (functioning), crack (v), crack (fall through the cracks, etc.), buckle (give way), butcher (v), cave (cave in), crack (v), crash-land (v), crumble (v), derail (v), erode (v), fall apart (v), fizzle (fizzle out), flatline (v), founder (v), fray (v), fumble (v), gas (run out of gas), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), grind (grind down), grind (grind to a halt), gum up (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), misdiagnose (v), overplay (v), pipe (go down the pipes), screw up (v), short-circuit (v), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), snap (v), sputter (v), stall (v), strain (v), stray (behavior), stray (direction), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), strike out (v), stumble (v), tarnish (v), trip up (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), tumble down (v), undermine (v), unravel (v), west (go west), wreck (v), wrench (throw a wrench)
• verb to noun: fail (a stunning fail, etc.)
• walking, running & jumping: falter (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), misstep (n), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), stumble (v), stumble (n), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), trip up (v)
• water: belly flop (n)
• weapon: dud (n)
• weight: straw (the last straw)

FAMILY (2)
• accusation & criticism: scold (v)
• amount: twin (two)
• behavior: child (spoiled child)
• branching system: family tree
• creation & transformation: brainchild, father (father of India, etc.), godfather, mother (mother of invention, etc.)
• dependency: babysitter (role), nanny (person)
• division: parent (parent company, etc.)
• division & connection: brother (n), brotherhood, kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), orphaned, parent (relationship), twin (relationship)
• epithet: father (father of India, etc.), godfather (God father of Soul, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: kinship
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• group, set & collection: brotherhood, family (gang / group)
• help & assistance: mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, sister (big sister)
• identity & nature: child (product)
• origin: background
• person: brother (brother in arms, etc.), cousin (person), father (father of India, etc.), favorite son, godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), sister (relationship), stepchild (weakness)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: legacy (obsolescence)
• product: daughter (n), offspring
• proper name: mother (Mother Mountain, etc.), sister (the Seven Sisters, etc.), twin (the Twins, etc.)
• relationship: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), brother (n), brotherhood, cousin (person), daughter (n), family (group), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), incestuous (adj), kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), mother (mother earth), orphan (n), orphaned, parent (relationship), relative (relationship), sibling, sister (relationship), stepchild (weakness), stepmother (cruelty), twin (relationship)
• reputation: legacy (reputation)
• speech: mother tongue
• strength & weakness: stepchild (weakness)
• superlative: granddaddy, mother (superlative)
• taxonomy & classification: family (plants), family (animals), family (viruses), family (products), family (languages), generation (products, etc.)
• time: father (Father Time)
• transmission: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (obsolescence), legacy (effect), legacy (reputation)
• worth & lack of worth: favorite son, illegitimate (adj), stepchild (weakness)

FAN (2)
• extent & scope: fan out (v)
• movement: fan out
• shape: fan (shape)

FANTASY & REALITY (1)
• addiction: pipe dream, rabbit hole
• allusion: curiouser and curiouser, El Dorado, heffalump (creature), Kafkaesque (adj), never-never land, quixotic (adj), rabbit hole, Twilight Zone, Walter Mitty
• animal: rabbit hole
• creature: ghost (fantasy and delusion), heffalump (creature), phantom
• earth & world: world (fantasy)
• health & medicine: demented, dream (fever dream)
• history: El Dorado
• hole: rabbit hole
• magic: make-believe (n), make-believe (adj)
• mental health: delusion (under a delusion), delusion, demented, pipe dream, rabbit hole
• person: Kafkaesque, quixotic (adj), rabbit hole, Walter Mitty
• theater: theater of the absurd

FARMING & AGRICULTURE (2) (see also plant; tree; wheat)
• appearance & disappearance: crop up
• configuration: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
• conflict: slash-and-burn (adj)
• content: fodder (n), grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
• creation & transformation: plant (create), seed (n), sow (v)
• destruction: slash-and-burn (adj)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: plow (plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: prune (v), weed out (v), slash-and-burn (adj)
• division & connection: silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
• feeling, emotion & effect: harrowing (adj)
• growth & development: cultivate (v), cultivated, fallow (adj), fruition (n), ground (fertile ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed, plant (create), seed (n), soil (fertile soil), sow (v)
• importance & significance: ground (break ground), groundbreaking
• isolation & remoteness: silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
• place: bowl (rice bowl), bowl (salad bowl / agriculture), breadbasket (Pakistan’s breadbasket, etc.)
• product: commodity, crop (n), farm (enterprise), fruit (product), reap (v), harvest (v), harvest (n), harvested
• searching & discovery: glean (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: plow (plow through, etc.)
• subterfuge: straw man (n)
• throwing, putting & planting: plant (put), plow (put), sow (v), sown (planted)
• work & duty: plow (plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
• worth & lack of worth: commodity, fruitful (adj)

FATE, FORTUNE & CHANCE (1)
• allusion: chalice (poisoned chalice), Faustian (adj), kiss of death, midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.), Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.), Sword of Damocles
• animal: jaw (jaws of defeat, etc.), snake (snake-bit)
• astronomy: star (fate)
• atmosphere: sky (the sky can fall)
• ax: chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other)
• Bible: handwriting (on the wall), kiss of death, writing (writing on the wall)
• blade: call (close call / danger), chopping block (on the chopping block), chopping block (other), shave (close shave), sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
• boundary: line (tread a line, etc.)
• breathing: breath (hold one’s breath)
• bullet: bullet (dodge a bullet)
• burial: coffin (nail in the coffin, etc.), funeral (one’s funeral), grave (dig one’s grave)
• cards: card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), draw (luck of the draw), hand (dealt a hand)
• circus: tightrope
• clock: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
• cloth: thread (by a thread)
• clothing & accessories: shoe (a shoe can drop or fall)
• cooking: frying pan
• control & lack of control: control (out of one’s control)
• day: midnight (two minutes to midnight, etc.)
• death & life: coup de grace (deathblow), death (cheat death), death warrant, doomed, funeral (one’s funeral), grave (dig one’s grave), kiss of death, noose (fate)
• electricity: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
• epithet: miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.)
• equilibrium & stability: balance (hang in the balance), teeter (v)
• eye: blind (not controlled by intelligence)
• finger: finger (fingers crossed)
• fire: fire (play with fire), frying pan
• food & drink: chalice (poisoned chalice), medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• football: Hail Mary
• gambling: card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), dice (n), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (n), gamble (v), lottery, roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
• gesture: finger (fingers crossed)
• ground, terrain & land: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (from the brink), brinksmanship (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
• hair: call (close call / danger), shave (close shave)
• hand: hand (fate)
• head: head (heads will roll, etc.)
• health & medicine: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• history: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• justice: reprieve (n)
• journeys & trips: path (cross paths), return (point of no return)
• lightning: lightning (fate)
• line: line (tread a line, etc.), line (on the line)
• love, courtship & marriage: flirt (v)
• magic: crystal ball, cursed, magic (trail magic, etc.), tea leaves
• mechanism: wheel (wheels of fate)
• military: last-ditch (adj)
• mountains & hills: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
• neck: neck (save one’s neck), neck (fate)
• number: number (n), numbered
• predation: jaw (jaws of defeat, etc.)
• religion: cursed, god (mountain gods, etc.), Hail Mary, handwriting (on the wall), karma (fate), kiss of death, miracle (other), miraculous (adj), original sin, writing (writing on the wall)
• river: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• scale: balance (hang in the balance)
• shape: circle (a circle can close)
• sky: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate), sky (the sky can fall)
• snake: snake (snake-bit)
• snow & ice: ice (on thin ice)
• sports & games: card (in the cards), cards (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (v), gamble (n), game (guessing game), Hail Mary, roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
• star: star (fate)
• storm: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
• sword: sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
• taste: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• tree: chip (chips fall, etc.), limb (go out on a limb)
• verb: breath (hold one’s breath), bullet (dodge a bullet), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), finger (fingers crossed), fire (play with fire), flirt (v), gamble (v), grave (dig one’s grave), head (hold something over one’s head), limb (go out on a limb), line (tread a line, etc.), path (cross paths), shoe (a shoe can drop or fall), spell (spell disaster, etc.), teeter (v)
• violence: coup de grace (deathblow), head (heads will roll, etc.)
• walking, running & jumping: leap (commitment), line (tread a line, etc.)
• weapon: bullet (dodge a bullet), coup de grace (deathblow), gun (under the gun), long shot, Russian roulette, shot (chance)
• writing & spelling: handwriting (on the wall), spell (spell disaster, etc.)
FATNESS & THINNESS (2)
- ability & lack of ability: lean (size)
- size: bloated (size), lean (size), slender (adj), slim (small)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: fat (adj), lean (insufficiency)

FEELING, EMOTION & EFFECT (1)
- addiction: addictive (adj), narcotic
- air: air (breath of fresh air), deflate (emotion), deflated, pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- alcohol: drunk (adj), hangover, intoxicate (v), intoxicated, intoxicating, sober (v), sober (adj), sobering
- allusion: stoic (adj)
- animal: bask (v), bristle (v), devoured, eat (destroy), eaten alive, eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), gnaw (v), gnawing, hackles (raise hackles), ruffled (feathers), venom (n), venomous (adj)
- arm: hold back (restraint)
- atmosphere: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other), air (breath of fresh air), bask (v), cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), deflate (emotion), deflated, fallout (effect), pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
- baby: baby (relationship)
- bird: eggshell (walking on eggshells), feather (ruffle feathers), ruffled (feathers)
- blade: cut (cut both ways), dagger, double-edged (sword), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
- blood: blood (blood runs cold), blood (in cold blood), livid (adj), mist (red mist), vein (ice in one’s veins)
- boat: stack (blow one’s stack)
- bodily process: breath (take one’s breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), eye-roll (dismissal), gasp (very “gasp,” etc.), goosebumps, retch (v), sigh (sigh of relief), sweat (feeling), teeth (gnash one’s teeth), yawn (n)
- bottle: bottle up (v)
- boxing: blow (body blow), punch (effect)
- breathing: breath (take one’s breath away), breathless (adj), breathtaking (adj), gasp (very “gasp,” etc.), sigh (sigh of relief), suffocating
- burden: straw (the last straw)
- burial: pall (cast a pall)
- cards: poker-faced
- chemistry: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), corrosive (adj)
- cloth: pall (cast a pall)
- clothing & accessories: shoe (a stone in the shoe)
- cloud: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
- color: black (feeling), blue (feeling), green (green with envy), livid (adj)
- container: bottle up (v), drained (feeling), emptiness (depression), empty (depression), hold (hold something in), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pent-up (constrained)
- control & lack of control: control (in control)
- cooking: stir (effect)
- creature: demonic (adj), haunting, spook (v), spooked
- death & life: deadening (effect), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), killjoy (person), knife (knife in the heart)
- destruction: torn up
- direction: buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyant (personality), buoyed, depression, down (feeling), downhearted, fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fall (an emotion can fall), fall (fall in love), feeling (sinking feeling), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), head (keep one’s head up), heart (heart sank), high (on a high), high (emotion), high-spirited, lift (n), lift (v), raise (feeling), roller coaster (emotional roller coaster, etc.), sink (sink into despair, etc.), sinking (sinking feeling, etc.), slide (v), up (feeling), retreat (withdraw)
• dog: bristle (v), hackles (raise hackles)
• earthquake: aftershock (n), earthquake (effect), shock wave, upheaval (disruption)
• earth & world: world (on top of the world)
• electricity: amped (feeling), electric (feeling), electrify (v), galvanize (v), lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), shock (v), shock (in shock), shock (feeling), shocked (adj), shocker (n), shocking (feeling, emotion and effect), thunderstruck (adj)
• engine: revved (revved up)
• equilibrium & stability: destabilizing (adj), earthquake (effect), edge (on edge), feet (knock somebody off their feet), flattened (emotion), floored (emotion), head-spinning, rattled (feeling), rock (v), rocked (disruption), shake (disrupt), shaken (feeling), stagger (v), upheaval (disruption)
• exclamation: wow (v)
• explosion: blockbuster, blown away, blow up (emotion), bombshell (n), burst (burst into tears, etc.), erupt (feeling), explode (emotion), go off (v), Molotov cocktail, set off (feeling and emotion), shellshocked, shock wave, stack (blow one's stack), steam (v), top (blow one's top)
• eye: blink (v), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyebrow (raise eyebrows), eye-popping, eye-roll (dismissal)
• face: poker-faced
• family: kinship
• farming & agriculture: harrowing (adj)
• finger: nail-biting, touch (v), touching (adj)
• fire: burned (hurt), burning (burning desire, etc.), burn out (v), burnout (n), consume (emotions), consumed, fire (on fire / feeling), fire (fire and desire, etc.), fired up, firebrand, fume (v), incendiary, scorching (adj), searing (adj)
• fist: beating (take a beating), blow (bitter blow, etc.), hit (effect), punch (effect), smitten (effect), striking (adj), struck (effect), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj)
• flying & falling: fly (fly into a rage, etc.)
• food & drink: bitter (personality), bittersweet, devoured, eaten alive, fed up, savor, taste (a bad taste, etc.)
• foot: kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), teeth (kick in the teeth), toe (step on toes)
• force: crush (love), crushed, daze (in a daze), hit (effect), smitten (effect), struck (effect), stunned (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj)
• functioning: broken (feeling), broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (broken heart), heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbeat (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken, paralyzed (feeling)
• gesture: eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyebrow (raise eyebrows), eye-roll (dismissal), hat (hold on to your hat), jaw (jaw-dropper, etc.), jaw (jaw-dropping), nail-biting (fingernails)
• gambling: poker-faced
• ground, terrain & land: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• hair: bristle (v), hackles (raise hackles), hair-raising
• hand: crush (feeling and emotion), gripped, handwringing (n), hold (hold something in)
• hardness & softness: harden (feelings), hardened
• hat: hat (hold on to your hat)
• head: coolheaded (adj), head (keep / lose one’s head), head (turn heads), head (keep one’s head up), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
• health & medicine: addictive (adj), anodyne (adj), bromide (n), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), crippling, febrile (adj), heartsick, injury, narcotic, nostrum (n), painful (adj), paralyzed (feeling), pill (bitter pill), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), sick (disgusted), sick (other), soothe (sensation), tonic (effect)
• heart: broken-hearted, coldhearted (adj), downhearted, heart (miscellaneous), heart (heart sank), heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (heavy heart), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heartache, heartbeat (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartfelt, heartsick, heart-stopping, heartthrob, heartwarming (adj), heart-wrenching, heavy-hearted (adj), knife (knife in the heart), light-hearted (adj)
• heating water: boiling point, boil over (v), seethe (v)
• height: raise (feeling)
• hole: hole (feeling)
• house: home (feel at home), home (hit home), home (close to home), welcome (welcome news, etc.)
• hunting: gutted (feeling)
• insect: butterfly (butterflies in stomach), stinging (adj), stung (feeling)
• journeys & trips: follow (follow a feeling or emotion)
• key: lock (lock something away)
• knife: cut (cut both ways), dagger, heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), stab (sensation)
• light & dark: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), darken (v), day (dark day), dazzle (v), dim (feeling), gloom (n), gloomy (adj), illuminating (adj), scintillating (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under a shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.), sunny
• lightning: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
• love, courtship & marriage: crush (love), swoon (v)
• magic: charm (v), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), entranced, magic (effect), magic (magic moment, etc.), magical (effect), mesmerizing (adj), spell (under a spell), spellbinding, spellbound
• mark: bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), dent (n), mark (effect)
• materials & substances: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), crack (verb / emotion), eggshell (walking on eggshells), fragile (feelings), meltdown (n), noxious (adj), poisonous (adj), shattering, snap (v), stick (emotion), toxic (adj), unglued, shatter (v), vitriol (n)
• mechanism: breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.), break down (feeling), broken (feeling), button (push a button), button (panic button), button (hot button), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), heart (a broken heart, etc.), pump up (v), turned off, turned on, turn on (v), turn-off (disgust), turn-on, wind down (relax), wound (tightly wound)
• mental health: emptiness (depression), empty (depression), possessed
• military: retreat (withdraw)
• movement: carry (carry me away, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), pulsating (adj), slide (v)
• Native Americans: trail (trail of tears)
• nuclear energy: fallout (effect)
• person: firebrand (person), hothead (person), killjoy (person)
• plant: withering (adj)
• predation: devoured, eat (destroy), eaten alive
• prep, adv, adj, particle: down (feeling), up (feeling)
• pressure: blow up (emotion), decompression, explode (emotion), pressure (under pressure), pressure (n), pressured, pressure-filled, steam (v), steam (blow / let off steam), vent (v)
• proximity: close (feeling), cozy (adj), distance (feeling)
• pump: pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
• religion: dispirited (adj), godforsaken, hellish (adj), miraculous (adj), paradisiacal (adj), possessed, spirit (feeling)
• river: run (run deep / high / strong), swept away (emotion)
• rocket: ballistic (go ballistic)
• rope: rope (at the end of one’s rope)
• rubbing & washing: scoured
• sea: swept away (emotion), wave (effect)
• sensation: abrasive (adj), blistering, blow (bitter blow, etc.), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), burned (hurt), burning (burning desire, etc.), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), grate (v), gut-wrenching (adj), heartache, heartfelt, heartthrob, heart-wrenching, hurt (feeling and emotion), irritant, irritated, irritating, irritation, numb (adj), painful (adj), pinch (n), raw (adj), rub (rub somebody the wrong way, sensitive (adj), shoe (a stone in the shoe),
smart (v), soothe (sensation), sore (sensation), stinging (adj), stoic (adj), stun (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj), stung (feeling), thick-skinned, thin-skinned, toe (step on toes), wrenching (adj)

- sex: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately
- shadow: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- shape: vicious circle
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: nerve (anxiety), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), nerveless (adj), nerve-racking, skin (feeling), skin (jump out of one’s skin), sore (sensation), thick-skinned, thin-skinned, touchy (adj)
- sky: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other)
- sleep: nightmare (n), nightmare (worst nightmare), nightmarish (adj), tired (adj), weary (condition)
- smell: noxious (adj)
- snake: venom (n), venomous (adj)
- snow & ice: frosty (adj), ice (break the ice), ice-cold
- sound: alarm (feeling), bang (with a bang), bang (bang for the buck), chord (strike a chord), echo (verb / effect), echo (noun / effect), note (on a note), note (note of caution, etc.), repercussion (n), resonate (v), reverberate (v), reverberation (n), thunderstruck (adj)
- speech: saccharine (adj)
- sports & games: domino (n), domino (domino effect)
- storm: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other)
- taste: bitter (personality), bittersweet, saccharine (adj), savor (v), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
- teeth: gnaw (v), gnawing, teeth (gnash one’s teeth), teeth (kick in the teeth)
- temperature: bask (v), boil (initiation), blood (blood runs cold), blood (in cold blood), boiling point, boil over (v), button (hot button), chill (feeling), chilling (adj), chilly, cold (feeling), coldhearted (adj), coldly, cool (cool off, etc.), cool (feeling), coolly (adverb), cozy (adj), febrile (adj), frosty (adj), heartwarming (adj), heat (in the heat of passion, etc.), heated (emotion), heatedly, hot (controversial), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj), hotly, ice (break the ice), ice-cold, incendiary (speech), lukewarm (adj), overheated (adj), scorching (adj), seethe (v), steam (v), temperature (raise the temperature), tepid, vein (ice in one’s veins), warm (v), warm (adj), warmly, warmth
- theater: drama (tense drama, etc.), dramatic (the dramatic), dramatic (effect), farce (n), melodrama (n), melodramatic (adj), tragedy (n)
- toe: toe (step on toes)
- tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- transportation: carry (carry me away, etc.)
- verb: bask (v), beating (take a beating), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), bottle up (v), break down (feeling), bristle (v), bruise (v), buoy (v), burn out (v), burst (burst into tears, etc.), button (push a button), carry (carry me away, etc.), charm (v), chord (strike a chord), consume (emotions), cool (cool off, etc.), crack (verb / emotion), crush (feeling and emotion), dampen (v), darken (v), dazzle (v), deflate (emotion), dim (feeling), dissolve (emotions), echo (verb / effect), electrify (v), erupt (feeling), explode (emotion), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fire up (v), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), fume (v), galvanize (v), gnaw (v), go off (v), grate (v), hackles (raise hackles), harden (feelings), hat (hold on to your hat), head (keep / lose one’s head), head (keep one’s head up), hit (effect), hold (hold something in), hold back (restraint), home (hit home), home (feel at home), hurt (feeling and emotion), ice (break the ice), intoxicate (v), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), lift (v), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), lock (lock something away), needle (move the needle, etc.), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pall (cast a pall), raise (feeling), resonate (v), retch (v), reverberate (v), ripple (v), rock (v), roll (v), rub (rub somebody the wrong way), savor (v), seethe (v), set off (feeling and emotion), shake (disrupt), shatter (v), shock (v), sink (sink into despair, etc.), slide (v), smart (v), snap (v), sober (v), soothe (sensation), spell (cast a
spell), spook (v), stack (blow one’s stack), stagger (v), steam (v), steam (blow / let off steam), stomach (turn one’s stomach), stick (emotion), sun (v), sung (feeling), swoon (v), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword), teeth (gnash one’s teeth), temperature (raise the temperature), toe (step on toes), top (blow one’s top), touch (v), turn on (v), unwind (v), vent (v), warm (v), wind down (relax), wow (v)

- violence: punch (effect), torturous
- volcano: top (blow one’s top), vent (v), volcanic
- water: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoyed, dampen (v), dissolve (emotions), drained (feeling), drip (drip-drip), ripple (n), ripple (v), roil (v), seethe (v), splash (effect), swept away (emotion), wave (effect)
- wave: wave (effect)
- weapon: blockbuster, blown away, blow up (emotion), explode (emotion), shrapnel (n), smitten (effect)
- weight: heart (heavy heart), heavy (emotion), heavy-hearted (adj), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), light-hearted (adj), straw (the last straw)

FENCE (2)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: fence (straddle the fence), fence (fence-straddling), straddle (straddle the fence)
- amelioration & renewal: fence (mend fences)
- commitment & determination: straddle (straddle the fence)
- division & connection: fence (division)
- position, policy & negotiation: straddle (straddle the fence)

FICTION COMMUNICATION (1)
- books & reading: read (a sign can read something)
- speech: address (v), call for (a recipe can call for something), invite (v), language (of sports, cars, etc.), say (a sign can say something, etc.), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), speak (speak to something), suggest (indicate), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), time (time will tell), warn (a sign can warn, etc.)
- verb: address (v), call for (a recipe can call for something), invite (v), read (a sign can read something), say (a sign can say something, etc.), speak (speak to something), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), warn (a sign can warn, etc.)

FICTION MEETING & SEEING (1)
- eye: see (a date can see, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.)
- face: face (face anger, etc.)
- verb: encounter (difficulties, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), find (a date can find us, etc.), meet (something can meet you), see (a date can see something), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), stumble (stumble across / on / upon)

FICTION MOTION (1)
- animal: snake (a trail can snake)
- snake: snake (a trail can snake)
- verb: climb (roads, etc.), cross (a bridge can cross), follow (a road can follow, etc.), go (a road can go, etc.), meander (v), run (a road can run, etc.), snake (a trail can snake), wind (wind its way)
- walking, running & jumping: go (a road can go, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)

FICTION POSITION (1) (see also configuration)
- standing, sitting & lying: sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)
- verb: sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)

FICTION POSSESSION (1)
- hand: capture (v), grab (v), grabbing (attention-grabbing), grip (in the grip), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), possess (take hold), possessed, seize (v)
verb: capture (v), grab (v), hold (verb / possession), hold (take hold), seize (v)

FICTIVE TRANSPORTATION (1)
- journeys & trips: take (take somebody somewhere)
- verb: carry (carry me away, etc.), take (take somebody somewhere), ride (ride on something)

FILM (2)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: it (it girl, etc.), marquee (attention)
- comparison & contrast: screen (split screen)
- coming, arriving, leaving & returning: sunset (ride into the sunset)
- failure, accident & impairment: dust (bite the dust)
- perception, perspective & point of view: Rashomon (point of view)
- speech: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n)
- subterfuge: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n)

FINGER (2)
- accusation & criticism: finger (accusation), finger (point a finger), finger-pointing
- attainment: finger (slip through one's fingers)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: point out (v)
- coercion & motivation: prod (v)
- creation & transformation: finger (snap one's fingers)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: finger (lift a finger)
- division & connection: touch (lose touch), touch (other)
- evidence: fingerprint
- fate, fortune & chance: finger (fingers crossed)
- feeling, emotion & effect: nail-biting, touch (v), touching (adj)
- help & assistance: finger (lift a finger)
- proximity: fingertip (at one's fingertips)

FIRE (2) (see also temperature)
- activity: burning (slow-burning), smolder (v)
- amelioration & renewal: ashes (from the ashes), burn off (v)
- amount: backlog (amount), spark (spark of hope, etc.)
- amount & effect: conflagration, fire (n), fire (flash fire), firestorm
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blaze (in a blaze of glory)
- attraction & repulsion: flame (attraction), moth (attraction)
- characterization: brand (v)
- coercion & motivation: feet (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire (hold somebody's feet to the fire), fire up (v), grill (v)
- computer: firewall (computers), war (flame war)
- conflict: fire (conflict), flame (conflict), scorched-earth, slash-and-burn (adj)
- creation & transformation: Phoenix (myth)
- curtailment: snuff (v)
- decline: burn out (v), burnout (n), die (die down)
- destruction: ashes, extinguish (v), Phoenix (myth), slash-and-burn (adj), snuff (v)
- direction: beacon (n)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: slash-and-burn (adj)
- environment: cauldron (n), crucible (n), furnace (n)
- evidence: fire (evidence), smoke (evidence)
- failure, accident & impairment: flame (up in flames)
• fate, fortune & chance: fire (play with fire), frying pan
• feeling, emotion & effect: burned (hurt), burning (burning desire, etc.), burn out (v), burnout (n), consume (emotions), consumed, fire (on fire / feeling), fire (fire and desire, etc.), fired up, firebrand, fume (v), incendiary, scorching (adj), searing (adj)
• fire: firebrand (person)
• identity & nature: melting pot (n)
• impression: burned (impressed), seared
• increase & decrease: accelerant (n), fan (v), fire (fuel on the fire, etc.), fuel (v), fuel (n), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), fueled, inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle (v), oil (pour oil), oxygen (fuel), stoke (v)
• initiation: ablaze (set something ablaze), alight (fire), combustible, fan (v), fiery (character), fiery (speech), fire (catch fire), flare (v), flare up (v), flare-up (n), flashpoint, fuel (v), fuel (n), ignite (v), incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle, oxygen (fuel), re-ignite, rekindle, spark (v), spark (n), stoke (v), tinderbox (violence, etc.), volatile
• mixture: melting pot (n)
• origin: ashes (from the ashes), Phoenix (myth)
• protection & lack of protection: firewall
• pursuit, capture & escape: smoke out
• punishment & recrimination: coal (rake somebody over the coals)
• representation: torch (carry a torch), torch (other), torchbearer
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: smoke (smoke clears)
• resemblance: tinderbox (resemblance)
• sensation: burning (burning desire, etc.), seared, searing (adj)
• speech: coal (rake somebody over the coals), combustible, grill (v), incendiary (speech), inflammatory (adj), roast (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: die out (end), ignite (v), rekindle (v), smolder (v)
• substance & lack of substance: fire (substance)
• subterfuge: smokescreen
• supplying: fuel (v)
• survival, persistence & endurance: Phoenix (myth)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: backlog (amount)
• transmission: torch (other)

**FISH (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)**

• attraction & repulsion: bait (n), lure (v), lure (n)
• condition & status: dead (dead in the water)
• configuration: sardined
• consumption: hook (hook, line and sinker)
• creation & transformation: spawn (v), spawned
• enthusiasm: hooked
• environment: fish (fish out of water), fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other)
• extent & scope: hook (hook, line and sinker)
• failure, accident & impairment: belly-up (adj), dead (dead in the water)
• importance & significance: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• movement: fishtail (v)
• perception, perspective & point of view: fisheye
• power: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• punishment & recrimination: hook (off the hook)
• pursuit, capture & escape: dragnet (cast a dragnet), dragnet (n), expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), hook (off the hook), land (land a job, etc.), lure (v), lure (n), net (cast a net), nibble (n), reel in (v), trawl (v), troll (v)
• searching & discovery: expedition (fishing expedition), trawl (v)
• size: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: dead (dead in the water)
• strength & weakness: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow
• suspicion: fishy (adj)
• taxonomy & classification: fish (different kettle of fish)

FIST (2)
• accusation & criticism: bash (v), beaten (beaten up), pummel (v)
• comprehension & incomprehension: hit (comprehension)
• conflict: hitter (heavy hitter)
• driving force: fist ( armored fist, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: beating (take a beating), blow (bitter blow, etc.), hit (effect), punch (effect), smitten (effect), striking (adj), struck (effect), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj)
• hitting, slamming & lashing: bash (v), bashing (n), batter (v), beat (beat down), beat up (v), clobbered, clout (n), hit (affected), hit (force), knock out (v), knockout (n), pound (v), pummel (v), pummeled, punch (force), smitten, strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.)
• occurrence: strike (tragedy, etc.)
• oppression: fist (with an iron fist), ironfisted
• power: clout (n)
• punishment & recrimination: beat (beat oneself up)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: beat back (v), hit back (v)
• speech: bash (v), bashing
• subterfuge: punch (sucker punch / verb)

FLAGS & BANNERS (2)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: banner (under the banner), banner (behind the banner), banner (banner of Islam, etc.)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
• commitment & determination: flag (plant one’s flag)
• experimentation: flagpole (run something up the flagpole)
• identity & nature: colors (true colors)
• representation: banner (carry a banner), flag-bearer, standard-bearer
• resistance, opposition & defeat: flag (plant one’s flag), stand ( last stand, etc.)
• size: banner (size)
• subterfuge: flag (false flag)
• warning: red flag

FLAWS & LACK OF FLAWS (1) (see also danger; decline; destruction; failure, accident & impairment; success & failure)
• affix: over (overheated, etc.)
• air: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
• allusion: Goldilocks (Goldilocks zone, etc.), sweet spot
• atmosphere: airtight (adj), overinflated (adj), tempestuous (adjective), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
• ball: roll (on a roll)
• Bible: Garden of Eden
• blade: dull (adj), edge (lose one’s edge)
• bodily process: hiccup (n)
books & reading: storybook
bullet: bulletproof (adj)
chemistry: rust (functioning), rusty (adj)

cloth: fray (v), frayed, seamless (adj), tatters (in tatters), wrinkle (n)
clothing & accessories: tatters (in tatters)
cooking: half-baked (adj)
direction: downside (n)
ear: tin-eared (adj)
equilibrium & stability: balance (off balance), balance (out of balance), disequilibrium (n), shaky (equilibrium), solid (adj), sure-footed (adj), unstable (adj), wobbly (adj)
explosion: bombproof
eye: black eye
food & drink: palatable (adj), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
fruits & vegetables: lemon (n), plum (desirable)
ground, terrain & land: bumpy (adj), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.), mired (stuck), rocky (adj), terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
hardness & softness: edge (rough edges, etc.), smooth (lack of flaws)
health & medicine: fit (adj), fitness (ability), lethargic (adj)
hole: chink (n), hole (flaw)
hygiene: clean (a clean record, etc.), mess (n), messy (adj)
journeys & trips: path (tough / easy path, etc.), road (tough / easy road, etc.)
knife: dull (adj), edge (lose one's edge)
light & dark: bright (bright side), side (dark side)
mark: blemish (n), black eye, blot (n), mark (black mark), scar (blemish), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.), smear (n), smear (v), stain (n), stain (v), unblemished
materials & substances: coarse (adj), crack (flaw), crude (adj), flawed (adj), flawless (adj), flimsy (adj), jewel (n), lapidary (adj), polish (v), polished (adj), sag (v), solid (adj), sound (solid), sticky (a sticky situation, etc.), unpolished, weak (fragile)
mechanism: broken (failure), misbehave (v), point (sticking / friction point)
movement: roll (on a roll)
music: note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
orientation downside, underbelly, underside (n), upside (n)
plant: thorny
religion: Garden of Eden, heaven (environment), paradise
rope: kink (n)
scale: balance (off balance)
skin, muscle, nerves & bone: strain (pressure), strained, stretch (v)
speech: broken (English, etc.), note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), stumble (stumble over one’s words), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
sports & games: level (fairness), playing field (uneven playing field, etc.)
stomach: underbelly, underside (n)
storm: stormy, tempestuous (adj)
taste: palatable (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
teeth: teething
verb: fray (v), polish (v), smear (v), stretch (v), stumble (v), stumble (stumble over one’s words), water (hold water)
walking, running & jumping: lame (lame excuse, etc.), misstep (n), stumble (v), stumble (stumble over one’s words)
water: water (hold water), watertight (adj), turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.)
• wind: tempestuous (adj)
• weapon: bulletproof (adj), surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)
• wounds & scars: scar (blemish), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.)

FLOOD (1)
• verb: jump (rivers can jump their banks)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (rivers can jump their banks)

FLOOD (2) (see also dam; river)
• amount & effect: deluge (n), deluged, flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flood (amount), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, inundate (v), inundated
• constraint & lack of constraint: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• extent & scope: high-water (high-water mark)
• movement: deluge (n), flood (move)
• obstacles & impedance: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• portal: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: high-water (high-water mark)

FLYING & FALLING (2) (see also plane)
• activity: flurry (activity), fly (activity)
• amount & effect: flurry (activity)
• configuration: hover (numbers)
• constraint & lack of constraint: fly (constraint)
• decline: free-fall (in free-fall), free-fall (n), nosedive (verb / decline), nosedive (noun / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease)
• development: trajectory (n)
• extent & scope: roof (through the roof)
• feeling, emotion & effect: fly (fly into a rage, etc.)
• growth & development: ground (get off the ground), take off (v)
• haste: fly (on the fly)
• inauguration: launch (v)
• increase & decrease: nosedive (verb / decrease), nosedive (noun / decrease), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), rocket (increase), roof (through the roof), soar (v)
• initiation: launch (v), take off (v)
• involvement: plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: fall (defeat)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: launch (v)
• throwing, putting & planting: launch (v)

FOG (2)
• consciousness & awareness: fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy

FOOD & DRINK (2) (see also cooking; fruits & vegetables; meat; taste)
• absorption & immersion: drink in (v), lap up (v)
• acceptance & rejection: Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.), stomach (accept)
• affliction: eat (destroy)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: egg (put all one’s eggs in a basket, etc.), Kool-Aid (drink the Kool-Aid, etc.)
• alternatives & choices: buffet (n), menu, smorgasbord (n)
• amelioration & renewal: fresh (adj), spice up (v)
• amount: crumb (amount), helping (amount), lion’s share, scrap (n), smorgasbord (n), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: nutshell (in a nutshell)
• appearance: feast (feast for the eyes)
• appearance & reality: chalice (poisoned chalice)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
• attraction & repulsion: marmite (n)
• bases: break and better (livelihood), bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother's milk)
• behavior: wolf (wolf down food)
• character & personality: bitter (personality), sour (personality), sweet (personality)
• commitment & determination: egg (put all one’s eggs in a basket, etc.)
• comprehension & incomprehension: digest (v)
• computer: menu
• configuration: pancake (v), pancake (n), pancaked, sandwiched, spaghetti (snarl)
• consumption: appetite (appetite for fur, etc.), choke (v), diet (n), digest (v), drink in (v), eat (consume), fed up, feed (fuel), feed (supply), feed (satisfy), feed (feed on / off / into something), glutton (person), gobble up (v), gorge (gorge on), hungry (adj), imbib (v), insatiable (adj), lap up (v), palatable (adj), ravenous (adj), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), swallowed, taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), taste (taste for violence, etc.), taste (a bad taste), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something), thirst (n), unsavory
• content: food (food for thought)
• corruption: curdle (v), fresh (adj), rot (v), rot (n), rotten (adj), sour (adj), sour (v), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory (adj)
• cost & benefit: gravy, gravy train, jar (cookie jar), meal ticket
• creation & transformation: hash out (v)
• destruction: cannibalized, consume (destroy), devour (destroy), devoured, eat (destroy), eaten alive, nibble (destroy)
• development: appetizer (n), main course
• difficulty, easiness & effort: cakewalk (dance), picnic (n)
• directing: feed (direct)
• eagerness & reluctance: drool (v), hungry (adj), mouthwatering (adj), stomach (eagerness)
• enthusiasm: crave (v), gluton (person), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
• experience: diet (n), medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.), treat (in for a treat)
• fate, fortune & chance: chalice (poisoned chalice), medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• feeling, emotion & effect: bitter (personality), bittersweet, fed up, savor (v), taste (a bad taste, etc.)
• flaws & lack of flaws: palatable (adj), stale (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: dish out (v), fork over (v), pepper (v), peppered
• identity & nature: bowl (salad bowl / mixture), gumbo (mixture), pie (apple pie)
• importance & significance: bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother’s milk), nothing-burger
• increase & decrease: feed (fuel), feed (feed on / off / into something)
• involvement: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• judgment: taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)
• mixture: bowl (salad bowl / mixture), brew (mixture), gumbo (mixture), soup (mixture), soup (alphabet soup), stew (mixture)
• person: cannibal (other), glutton (person)
• possession: fork over (v)
• revenge: dish (revenge)
• reversal: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• sacrifice: belt-tightening
• script: recipe
• shape: pancake (pancake ice, etc.)
• substance & lack of substance: food (food for thought), meat (substance), nothing-burger, teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: famine (feast to famine), feast (feast to famine), glut (n), glutton (person), insatiable (adj), starvation (n), starvation wages (n)
• superlative: cream (superlative)
• supplying: feed (supply), feed (feed on / off / into something), serve up (v)
• survival, persistence & endurance: shelf life
• taxonomy & classification: fish (different kettle of fish)
• transmission: feed (video, etc.)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: crave (v), feed (satisfy), hunger (n), hungry (adj), ravenous (adj), starved, stomach (food), taste (taste for violence, etc.), thirst (n)
• work & duty (plate on one’s plate)

FOOT (2) (see also equilibrium & stability; heel; leg)
• access & lack of access: foot (foot in the door)
• action, inaction & delay: feet (drag one’s feet), foot-dragging
• amelioration & renewal: feet (get back on one’s feet, etc.)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: footstep (retrace one’s footsteps)
• death & life: feet (feet first)
• destruction: stamp out (v), trample (v), trampled
• direction: footstep (in the footsteps)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
• disruption: toe (step on toes)
• eagerness & reluctance: feet (cold feet), foot-dragging, heel (dig in one’s heels)
• equilibrium & stability: foot (one foot planted)
• experimentation: toe (dip one’s toes)
• feeling, emotion & effect: kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), teeth (kick in the teeth), toe (step on toes)
• foot: kick (kick one’s butt, etc.), kick off (v)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: kickback
• initiation: kick in (start), kick up (v)
• involvement: toe (dip one’s toes)
• oppression: trample (v)
• position, policy & negotiation: footing (position)
• presence & absence: foothold (n), footprint (n), toehold (n)
• punishment & recrimination: kick (kick oneself)
• readiness & preparedness: flatfooted (caught flatfooted), foot (on the back foot)
• representation: foot (put a foot forward)
• resiliency: feet (get back on one’s feet, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: foot (put one’s foot down), heel (dig in one’s heels), kick (kick one’s butt, etc.)
• social interaction: kickback
• speed: pace (at a pace), pace (speed)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: foot (on the right / wrong foot), kick in (start)
• strength & weakness: foot (one foot planted)
• subterfuge: track (cover one’s tracks)
• survival, persistence & endurance: toehold (n), foothold (n)
• work & duty: foot soldier (duty)

FOOTBALL (2)
• action, inaction & delay: clock (run out the clock), tackle (v)
• avoidance & separation: end run (n)
• competition: football (n)
• conflict: football (n)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: end run (n), punt (v), tackle (v)
• failure, accident & impairment: fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
• fate, fortune & chance: Hail Mary
• obstacles & impedance: end run (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: kick off (v)
• strategy: end run (n)
• subterfuge: end run (n)
• success & failure: goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line)
• superlative: Super Bowl
• target: goalpost (target)

FORCE (1) (see also attenuation; protection & lack of protection; strength & weakness) (see also driving force; oppression; power; superiority & inferiority) (see also hitting, slamming & lashing)
• animal: bull (bull in a china shop), defang (v), paper tiger, teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
• arm: elbow (force), push (force)
• cows & cattle: bull (bull in a china shop)
• epithet: express (Pineapple Express, etc.)
• hammer: hammer (n)
• health & medicine: impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj)
• love, courtship & marriage: crush (love)
• movement: momentum (n), traction (gain / build / get traction)
• religion: juggernaut
• river: current (n), undercurrent (n)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (v)
• snake: defang (v)
• storm: storm (v), storm (by storm)
• teeth: teeth (take the teeth out), teeth (force), toothless (adj)
• tiger: paper tiger
• train: express (Pineapple Express, etc.), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (full steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.)
• verb: defang (v), elbow (force), muscle (v), push (force), [steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), storm (v), teeth (take the teeth out), traction (gain / build / get traction)]

FORCE (2) (see also hitting, slamming & lashing)
• accusation & criticism: blast (v), lay (lay into), slam (v)
• comprehension & incomprehension: hit (comprehension)
• computer: hit (computer)
• effect: impact (effect)
• feeling, emotion & effect: crush (love), crushed, daze (in a daze), hit (effect), smitten (effect), struck (effect), stun (v), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj)
• increase & decrease: boost (v), boost (n)
• movement: barrel (v), churn (move), muscle (verb)
• resiliency: push (push on)
• speech: lay (lay into)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: push (push on)
• survival, persistence & endurance: push (push on), take (endure)
FOREST (2)
  • area: woods (neck of the woods)
  • danger: woods (out of the woods)
  • location: woods (neck of the woods)
  • resemblance: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
  • survival, persistence & endurance: woods (out of the woods)

FORTIFICATION (2) (see also explosion; military; weapon)
  • amount & effect: siege (under siege), siege (other)
  • conflict: siege (under siege)
  • division & connection: drawbridge (protection)
  • importance & significance: salient (important)
  • proper name: castle (Castle Peaks, etc.), rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.)
  • protection & lack of protection: bastion, breach (n), bulwark (n), castle (protection), citadel (n), drawbridge (protection), entrenched, fort, fortress, loophole (n), moat (n), rampart (protection), redoubt (n), stronghold
  • resemblance: palisade (n), rampart (other)
  • resistance, opposition & defeat: siege (under siege), siege (other)
  • shape: castle (sand castle)

FOUNTAIN (2)
  • amelioration & renewal: fountain (fountain of youth)
  • resemblance: fountain (resemblance)
  • source: fountain (source), fountainhead

FOX (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
  • confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: frog (frog in boiling water)
  • consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water)
  • environment: frog (frog in boiling water)
  • situation: frog (frog in boiling water)

FROG (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
  • confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: frog (frog in boiling water)
  • consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water)
  • environment: frog (frog in boiling water)
  • situation: frog (frog in boiling water)

FRUITS & VEGETABLES (2) (see also cooking; food & drink; meat; taste)
  • achievement, recognition & praise: apple (Golden Apple)
  • analysis, interpretation & explanation: layer (analysis), onion (n), peel (peel back the layers, etc.)
  • behavior: nuts (crazy)
  • character & personality: apple (bad / rotten apple), nut (person)
  • coercion & motivation: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
  • consciousness & awareness: vegetable (consciousness)
  • cost & benefit: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
  • difficulty, easiness & effort: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
  • failure, accident & impairment: banana (n), lemon (n)
  • flaws & lack of flaws: lemon (n), plum (desirable)
• gift: apple (gift)
• growth & development: fruition (n), ripe (adj)
• product: apple (product), bear (bear fruit, etc.), fruit (product)
• superlative: plum (desirable)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: ripe (adj)
• worth & lack of worth: fruitful (adj), plum (desirable)

FUNCTIONING (1) (see also operation) (see also ability & lack of ability; condition & status)
• blade: honed, sharp (adj)
• chemistry: chemistry, rust (functioning), rusty
• crashes & collisions: crash (population crash, etc.)
• death & life: dead (functioning)
• direction: down (functioning)
• engine: sputter (v), stall (v), stalled
• equilibrium & stability: stability (n)
• health & medicine: atrophy (v), basket case, cripple (v), crippled, handicapped, impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), paralyze (v), paralyzed (functioning), paralysis (n), potency (strength), potent (adj)
• knife: honed, sharp (adj)
• manufacturing: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
• mechanism: break down (functioning), broken (failure), comatose (adj), down (functioning), gum up (v), hum (hum along), machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery (n), misbehave (v), nuts and bolts, speed (up to speed), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled, wrench (throw a wrench)
• movement: speed (up to speed)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: down (functioning)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: atrophy (v)
• snow & ice: freeze (computers, etc.)
• sound: click (v), hum (v), sputter (v)
• speech: tongue (lose one's tongue)
• tongue: tongue (lose one's tongue)
• verb: break down (functioning), click (v), cripple (v), gum up (v), hum (hum along), misbehave (v), paralyze (v), sputter (v), stall (v), wrench (throw a wrench)

FUNCTIONING (2)
• feeling, emotion & effect: broken (feeling), broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (broken heart), heartbeat (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken, paralyzed (feeling)
• heart: broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbeat (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
• speech: broken (English, etc.)

FUTURE (1) (see also past & present)
• allusion: oracle (person)
• container: hold (future)
• corner: corner (around the corner)
• day: day (new day), day (day has arrived, etc.), tomorrow (future)
• direction: ahead (future), approach (v), approaching, before (future), come (future), come (to come), come (see something coming), come (for a time to come), come up on, coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), forward (future), front (in front / future), head (into the future), headed, lie (lie ahead), look (look forward to something, etc.), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.), train (future)
• distance: way (a long way off)
• eye: horizon (on the horizon), look (it looks like, etc.), look (look forward to something, etc.), myopia (n), myopic (adj), see (see something coming), see (future), sight (in sight)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (future)
• health & medicine: prognosis (n)
• horizon: horizon (on the horizon)
• journeys & trips: ahead (future), forward (future), go (where are we going, etc.), road (road ahead, etc.), road (down the road, etc.)
• magic: crystal ball, fortuneteller (person), soothsayer (person), tea leaves
• mechanism: time machine
• movement: ahead (future), approach (v), approaching, come (future), come (to come), come (see something coming), come (for a time to come), come up on, coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), forward (future), go (where are we going, etc.), head (into the future), headed, run (run into next week, etc.), see (see something coming), time (time has passed)
• person: fortuneteller (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), soothsayer (person)
• prep, adv, adj, particl e: ahead (future), forward (future)
• religion: oracle (person), prophet (person), soothsayer (person)
• sky: horizon (on the horizon)
• speech: time (time will tell)
• train: train (future)
• verb: approach (v), bring (future), come (future), come (see something coming), come up on, coming (in the coming months, etc.), head (into the future), hold (future), lie (lie ahead), look (look forward to something, etc.), see (see something coming), see (future)
• walking, running & jumping: run (run into next week, etc.)
• water: tap (on tap)

GAMBLING (2) (see also baseball; basketball; boxing; cards; chess; sports & games; wrestling)
• appearance: poker-faced
• character & personality: card (hold one’s cards close)
• commitment & determination: double down (v)
• concealment & lack of concealment: card (cards on the table), hold (close hold, etc.), tip (tip one’s hand), vest (play something close to the vest)
• fate, fortune & chance: card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), dice (n), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (n), lottery, roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: poker-faced
• importance & significance: stake (importance), stake (high stakes)
• interest: stakeholder
• position, policy & negotiation: bluff (n), chip (bargaining chip)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: card (cards on the table)
• strategy: bluff (n), card (play one’s cards), card (guilt card, etc.), gamble (v), gamble (n), poker (game)
• strength & weakness: ace (n), bluff (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
• subterfuge: bluff (n)
• success & failure: jackpot (hit the jackpot), lottery, sweepstakes (win the sweepstakes)

GATE (2)
• access & lack of access: gate (society)
• control & lack of control: gatekeeper
• division & connection: gate (society)
• obstacles & impedance: gate (society)
• portal: gate (portal), gateway, portal (entrance)
• proper name: gate (Iron Gate, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: gatecrasher, gatekeeper
• society: gate (society)

GEOMETRY (2)
• perception, perspective & point of view: angle (from an angle)
• proper name: Triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
• relationship: triangle (things), triangle (people)
• speech: tangent (on a tangent)

GESTURE (2) (see also bodily process; breathing)
• achievement, recognition & praise: applaud (v), back (pat on the back / verb), back (pat on the back / noun), cap (tip one’s cap), hat (take off one’s hat to somebody), nod (refer), salute (v)
• action, inaction & delay: hand (throw up one’s hands)
• admiration & contempt: look (look down on something), nose (look down one’s nose)
• coercion & motivation: nudge (n)
• comprehension & incomprehension: head (scratch one’s head), head (shake one’s head)
• conflict: blink (v)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: shrug (gesture), shrug off (v)
• creation & transformation: finger (snap one’s fingers)
• dominance & submission: back down (v), blink (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: finger (fingers crossed)
• feeling, emotion & effect: eye (bat an eye / eyelash), eyebrow (raise eyebrows), eye-roll (dismissal), hat (hold on to your hat), jaw (jaw-dropper, etc.), jaw (jaw-dropping), nail-biting (fingernails)
• insult: nose (thumb one’s nose), slap (slap in the face, etc.)
• judgment: nose (thumb one’s nose), slap (slap in the face, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: head (keep one’s head down)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: frown (v), smile (v)
• subterfuge: wink (n)

GIFT (2)
• ability & lack of ability: gift (gift for languages, etc.), gifted
• cost & benefit: gift (benefit)
• fruits & vegetables: apple (gift)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: gift (v)
• worth & lack of worth: gift (benefit)

GIVING, RECEIVING, BRINGING & RETURNING (1) (see also taking & removing)
• bodily process: cough up (v)
• direction: turn in (give)
• family: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• food & drink: dish out (v), fork over (v), pepper (v), peppered
• foot: kickback
• gift: gift (v)
• hand: handed (given), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), handover
• history: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• money: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• speech: command (deserve and get)
• tools & technology: rake in (v)
verb: bring (v), dish out (v), fork over (v), furnish (give), gift (v), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), offer (v), pepper (v), rake in (v), turn in (give)

GIVING, RECEIVING, BRINGING & RETURNING (2)
- amelioration & renewal: bring (bring back)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: takeaway (n)
- commitment & determination: bring (bring it)
- comprehension & incomprehension: get (understand)
- future: bring (future)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: bring (bring back)
- survival, persistence & endurance: bring (bring back)

GLACIER (2) (see also snow & ice)
- creation & transformation: calve (v)
- speed: glacial

GOSSIP (1)
- manufacturing: mill (gossip / rumor mill), mill (grist for the mill)
- place: water cooler
- plant: fodder (n), grapevine (through / over the grapevine)

GOVERNMENT (1)
- mechanism: apparatus (government)

GOVERNMENT (2)
- action, inaction & delay: red tape
- allegiance, support & betrayal: vote (n)
- behavior: diplomacy, diplomatic
- body: body politic
- competition: race (elections)
- obstacles & impedance: red tape
- operation: wheel (wheels of justice, etc.)
- representation: ambassador (role)
- role: diplomacy, diplomatic
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: franchise (n), license (n), passport (n)
- superlative: Obama (Russia’s Obama, etc.)

GROUND, TERRAIN & LAND (2) (see also earthquake; landslide; mountains & hills, volcano)
- accusation & criticism: dirt (political dirt, etc.), mud (drag something through the mud), mudslinging (n), stone (throw stones, etc.), sully (v)
- achievement, recognition & praise: height (at the height), heights (to new heights, etc.), heights (other)
- action, inaction & delay: dust (collect dust)
- amount & effect: earthshaking (adj), landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other), Niagara (the river and falls)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: contour (n), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), drill (drill down, etc.), lay of the land
- appearance & disappearance: ground (go to ground), holed up, turn up (appear), uncover (v)
- appearance & reality: fool’s gold
- area: area (territory), contour (n), ecosystem (n), ground (area), lay of the land, landscape (n), terrain (known and unknown terrain), terrain (area), territory (area), territory (assigned area), topography (n), turf (control), wilderness (area)
• attachment: embedded
• bases: bedrock (n), footing (solid footing, etc.), foot (finding one’s footing, etc.), grassroots, ground (prepare the ground), groundwork, rock (support)
• behavior: edge (over the edge), ground (high ground), mud (in the mud)
• biodiversity: ecosystem (n)
• center & periphery: coast (n)
• certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj)
• character & personality: ground (both feet on the ground)
• competition: jungle (competition), turf (turf war, etc.)
• complexity: morass (n)
• concealment & lack of concealment: bury (conceal), buried (concealment), ground (go to ground), holed up, open (in / into the open), uncover (v)
• conflict: turf (turf war, etc.)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: dust (collect dust)
• consciousness & awareness: open (in / into the open)
• constraint & lack of constraint: room (wiggle room)
• content: dirt (political dirt, etc.)
• control & lack of control: turf (control)
• corruption: swamp (fever swamp)
• danger: jungle (competition), terrain (dangerous terrain, etc.)
• decline: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), precipitous (adj), rock-bottom (adj), sinkhole (n)
• destruction: abyss (n), edge (push something over the edge), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), precipice (at the precipice)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
• direction: landmark, negotiate (terrain, etc.), uncharted (adj), way (know one’s way around)
• disruption: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• division & connection: balkanization (n), barrier, chasm, crack (division), divide (n), fissure, gap (n), ground (common ground), ground (middle ground), rift (division)
• dominance & submission: ground (hold / stand one’s ground)
• effect: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• environment: badlands (environment), contour (n), desert (environment), ecosystem (n), jungle (environment), landscape (n), lay of the land, morass (n), oasis (environment), sand (political sands, etc.), swamp (fever swamp), terrain (area), territory (area)
• epithet: rock (support)
• equilibrium & stability: earthquake (effect), earthshaking (adj), footing (find one’s footing, etc.), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.), upheaval (disruption)
• extent & scope: earthshaking (adj), ground (cover ground)
• fate, fortune & chance: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (from the brink), brinkmanship (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
• feeling, emotion & effect: earthquake (effect), upheaval (disruption)
• failure, accident & impairment: crack (fall through the cracks, etc.)
• flaws & lack of flaws: bumpy (adj), ground (shaky ground, etc.), ground (firm ground, etc.), mired (stuck), rocky (adj), terrain (easy & difficult terrain)
• ground, terrain & land: level (from the ground level)
• growth & development: ground (get off the ground), ground (fertile ground)
• identity & nature: embedded
• importance & significance: ground (break ground), groundbreaking, landmark, salient (important)
• involvement: thick (in the thick of things)
• knowledge & intelligence: way (know one’s way around)
• obstacles & impedance: barrier, ditch (n), bogged down, mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), quicksand (in / into the quicksand), rut (in a rut), stuck (adj), thicket (n)
• oppression: buried (buried in debt, etc.)
• perception, perspective & point of view: grassroots, ground (on the ground), level (from the ground level), worm’s-eye (adj)
• possession: claim (stake a claim), soil (on one’s soil), territory (stake out territory)
• position, policy & negotiation: brinksmanship (n)
• progress & absence: footprint (n), ground (on the ground), territory (with the territory)
• proper name: oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: dug in, entrenched, foxhole, ground (go to ground), holed up
• pursuit, capture & escape: ground (go to ground), holed up, rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
• readiness & preparedness: ground (prepare the ground)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: dust (dust settles)
• resemblance: desert (environment)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: dig (dig out), hole (dig oneself out of a hole)
• situation: room (wiggle room), spot (in a tight spot, etc.), spot (tight spot, etc.), trapped
• source: aquifer (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: slope (slippery slope)
• strength & weakness: rock (support)
• success & failure: pay dirt
• survival, persistence & endurance: brink (back from the brink), dig (dig out)
• worth & lack of worth: dirt (worthless), fool’s gold, pay dirt

GROUP, SET & COLLECTION (1) (see also assembling)
• animal: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), pack (group), stable (n), zoo (group)
• astronomy: constellation (n), galaxy (n)
• bird: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
• center & periphery: inner circle (n)
• crime: mob (group)
• family: brotherhood, family (gang / group)
• horse: cavalcade (n), stable (n)
• infrastructure: suite (suite of tools, etc.)
• military: arsenal (amount)
• money: treasure trove (and trove), treasure house
• person: tribe (group)
• religion: cult (n)
• school & education: fraternity (n)
• sports & games: all-star (adj), scrum (reporters), team (dream team), varsity (n)
• theater: cast (cast of candidates, etc.), repertoire (n)
• tools & technology: set (skill set), toolbox, toolkit
• verb: pool (v)
• walking, running & jumping: parade (n)
• water: pool (v), pool (people), pool (things)
• weapon: arsenal (amount), quiver (n)
• zoo: zoo (group)

GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT (1)
• animal: lamb
• architecture: drawing board (on the drawing board), drawing board (other)
• astronomy: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), supernova (achievement)
• baby: infancy (in infancy), infancy, infant (n), nascent (beginning), newborn, nourished, nurture (v), nurtured, stillborn, teething, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.), young (adj)
• biology: embryonic, petri dish
• bird: fledgling, full-fledged (adj), incubator
• birth: embryonic, germinate (v), gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.), nascent (beginning), renaissance, stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• day: day (early days)
• death & life: age (come of age), mature (v), maturity, stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.), young (adj)
• direction: apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), arise (v), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the ascent), ascent, rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), rise (on the rise), top (on / at / to the top)
• farming & agriculture: cultivate (v), cultivated, fallow (adj), frution (n), ground (fertile ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed, plant (create), seed (n), soil (fertile soil), sow (v)
• flying & falling: ground (get off the ground), take off (v)
• fruits & vegetables: frution (n), ripe (adj)
• ground, terrain & land: ground (get off the ground), ground (fertile ground)
• hand: hold (take hold)
• health & medicine: cancer (n), cancerous (adj), growth (cancerous, etc.), metastasize (v), tumor (n)
• history: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), gilded (Gilded Age), golden age / era, medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), renaissance, revolution (n), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v), Stone Age
• journeys & trips: passage, rite (rite of passage)
• leg: leg (grow legs)
• light & dark: supernova (achievement)
• mechanism: full-on (adj)
• mountains & hills: peak (at the peak)
• movement: lag (progress)
• plane: take off (v)
• plant: bloom (v), blossom (v), budding, burgeoning (adj), cross-pollination, cultivate (v), cultivated, fallow (adj), flourish (v), flower (v), flowering, frution (n), germinate (v), ground (fertile ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed, kernel (n), nourished, nurture (v), nurtured, plant (create), root (growth), ripe (adj), seed (n), soil (fertile soil), sow (v), tendril (growth), thrive (v), transplant (n)
• religion: rite (rite of passage)
• school: graduate (v)
• season: spring (growth)
• sheep: lamb
• size: stunted
• snow & ice: frozen (development)
• standing, sitting & lying: feet (stand on one’s own two feet)
• star: supernova (achievement)
• teeth: teething
• tree: branch out (v), root (take root, etc.)
• verb: bloom (v), blossom (v), branch out (v), cultivate (v), flourish (v), flower (v), gestate (v), graduate (v), ground (get off the ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hold (take hold), leg (grow legs), mature (v), nurture (v), plant (create), revolutionize (v), sow (v), take off (v), thrive (v)
• walking, running & jumping: lag (progress)

GUILT (1)
• blood: blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.), bloody (guilt), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
• hand: blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
• hygiene: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
• light & dark: clear (clear conscience)

HAIR (2)
• activity: bristle (v)
• conflict: hackles (raise hackles)
• danger: call (close call / danger), shave (close shave)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: shave (removal), shed (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: call (close call / danger), shave (close shave)
• feeling, emotion & effect: bristle (v), hackles (raise hackles), hair-raising
• proximity: hair’s-breadth
• resemblance: hair (resemblance)
• searching & discovery: comb (v)
• shape: hairpin (shape)
• success & failure: scalp (n)

HAMMER (2)
• creation & transformation: hammer out (v), hammered out
• force: hammer (n)
• hitting, slamming & lashing: hammer (v), hammer (n)
• proper name: hammer (Thor’s Hammer, etc.)

HAND (2)
• action, inaction & delay: hand (sit on one’s hands), handle (deal with), handled, handwringing (n), hold (on hold), holdup (n)
• amount: handful (amount)
• attachment: cling (v)
• attainment: empty-handed, fingers (slip through one’s fingers), grasp (in one's grasp), grasp (out of one’s grasp), grasp (attainment), palm (in the palm of one's hand)
• attempt: hand (try one's hand)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: grabbing (attention-grabbing)
• avoidance & separation: hands-on, hands-off
• character & personality: handwring (n)
• coercion & motivation: hand (force someone’s hand)
• comparison & contrast: hand (on the one / other hand)
• comprehension & incomprehension: grasp (comprehend)
• concealment & lack of concealment: hold (close hold, etc.), vest (play something close to the vest)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one's hands), handle (deal with), handled, handling
• consciousness & awareness: hand (the right hand vs. the left hand)
• constraint & lack of constraint: hand (tie one’s hands, etc.), handcuff (v), handcuffed, loose (let loose)
• control & lack of control: grip (in the grip), grip (control), hand (get out of hand), hand (upper hand), hand (in hand), hand (control), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), handled, handling, hands-off, hands-on, loosen (v)
• curtailment: break off (v)
• destruction: crush (destroy)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: hand (have one's hands full), hand (all hands on deck)
• division & connection: hand in hand (go hand in hand)
• dominance & submission: hand (upper hand)
• eagerness & reluctance: handwringing (n)
• experience: old hand (experience)
• failure, accident & impairment: fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled
• fate, fortune & chance: hand (fate)
• feeling, emotion & effect: crush (feeling and emotion), gripped, handwringing (n), hold (hold something in)
• fictive possession: capture (v), grab (v), grabbing (attention-grabbing), grip (in the grip), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold (take hold), possessed, seize (v)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: handed (given), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), handover
• growth & development: hold (take hold)
• guilt: blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
• help & assistance: hand (bite the hand that feeds one), hand (help), handmaiden (help), handout
• involvement: blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.), hand (at the hands), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
• judgment: even-handed (adj), thumbs-down, thumbs-up
• obstacles & impedance: holdup (n)
• oppression: grip (control), hand (iron hand, etc.), ham-handed, heavy-handed
• person: handmaiden (help)
• possession: cling (v), empty-handed, fall (fall into the hands, etc.), grab (land grab, etc.), grasp (in one’s grasp), grasp (out of one’s grasp), grasp (possession), hand (possession), handed, handed over (possession), hand-me-down, hand over (v), handover, hang on to (v), hold (long-held), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold on (possession), seize (v)
• presence & absence: hand (on hand)
• protection & lack of protection: hand (hands off)
• proximity: fingertip (at one’s fingertips), hand (at hand)
• punishment & recrimination: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), wrist (slap on the wrist)
• relationship: hand in hand
• resiliency: hold on (survival), pick apart (analyze)
• responsibility: hand (at the hands)
• restraint & lack of restraint: hand (get out of hand)
• shape: handle (shape)
• situation: hold (on hold)
• subterfuge: underhand (or underhanded)
• survival, persistence & endurance: cling (v), hand (all hands on deck), hold on (survival)
• starting, stopping & continuing: break off (v)
• taking & removing: grab (v), snatch (v)
• transmission: handed down (transmission), hand-me-down
• work & duty: hand (work), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck)

HARDNESS & SOFTNESS (2)
• amelioration & renewal: cushion (v), cushion (n), smooth (v), soften (speech)
• attenuation: soften (v)
• character & personality: hard (character), hard-nosed, snowflake (person), teacup (person), teddy bear
• conflict: velvet (Velvet Revolution)
• experience: hardened (battle-hardened, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: harden (feelings), hardened
• flaws & lack of flaws: edge (rough edges, etc.), smooth (lack of flaws)
• heart: hard-hearted (adj), soft-hearted (adj)
• increase & decrease: harden (increase)
• protection & lack of protection: harden (protect)
• speech: soften (speech)
• strength & weakness: soft (soft on crime, etc.), snowflake (person), teacup (person)

HASTE (1)
• bird: fly (on the fly)
• crashes & collisions: crash (crash course, etc.)
• engine: gas (take one’s foot off the gas)
• flying & falling: fly (on the fly)
• health & medicine: rash (hasty)
• horse: canter (n), headlong, spur (on the spur of the moment), spur-of-the-moment
• justice: rush (rush to judgment)
• verb: scramble (v)
• walking, running & jumping: run (on the run / haste), scramble (v)

HAT (2)
• achievement, recognition & praise: cap (tip one’s cap), hat (take off one’s hat to somebody)
• feeling, emotion & effect: hat (hold on to your hat)

HEAD (2)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: head (reason)
• appearance & disappearance: head (rear its head, etc.)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: head (turn heads)
• behavior: hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
• character & personality: coolheaded (adj), hothead (person), hotheaded (adj)
• coercion & motivation: head (hold something over one’s head)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: head (rear its head, etc.)
• comprehension & incomprehension: head (scratch one’s head), head (shake one’s head), head (go over one's head, etc.), head (get one’s head around something, etc.)
• conflict: head to head
• consciousness & awareness: head (clear head)
• control & lack of control: head (keep / lose one’s head), hothead (n), hotheaded (adj)
• creation & transformation: brainchild
disruption: head (turn something on its head)
failure, accident & impairment: head (down on one’s head)
fate, fortune & chance: head (heads will roll, etc.)
feeling, emotion & effect: coolheaded (adj), head (keep / lose one’s head), head (turn heads), head (keep one’s head up), hothead (n), hotheaded (adj)
gesture: nod (agree)
idea: brainchild, brainstorm (v), brainstorm (n)
initiation: head start
interest: brain (on the brain)
knowledge & intelligence: brain (n), brain drain / gain, brain trust
person: hothead (person)
protection & lack of protection: head (keep one’s head down)
punishment & recrimination: head (heads will roll, etc.)
resiliency: head (keep one’s head up)
starting, going, continuing & ending: head start
timeliness & lack of timeliness: head start
violence: brainwash (v), brainwashed
warning: heads-up (warning)

HEALTH & MEDICINE (2) (see also addiction; mental health) (see also skin, muscle, nerves & bone; wounds & scars)
ability & lack of ability: basket case, fit (adj), fitness (ability), handicapped
acceptance & rejection: leper (person), quarantine (v)
activity: comatose (adj), febrile (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch (n), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), lethargic (adj), torpor (n)
affliction: alley (Cancer Alley), boil (affliction), cancer (n), cancerous (adj), convulse (v), convulsed, convulsion (n), disease (affliction), endemic (adj), epidemic, gall (v), growth (cancerous, etc.), headache, hives (n), infection (corruption), metastasize (v), neck (pain in the neck), pain (n), pathology (n), patient zero, plague (v), plague (n), plagued, rash (affliction), scar (v), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, sore (affliction), spasm (n), spasmodic (adj), tumor (n), unscathed (adj), wound (n)
amelioration & renewal: antidote (n), balm (n), Band-Aid (n), bromide (n), cure (n), cure (v), cure-all, disinfectant (n), heal (v), lance (v), panacea, pill (miracle pill), prescription, reinvigorate (v), remedy (v), remedy (n), resuscitate (v), salve (n), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), soothe (sensation), surgery (n), tonic (effect)
amount: dose (amount), rash (affliction)
amount & effect: epidemic, plague (n), rash (affliction)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: diagnosis (n), dissect, misdiagnose (v)
attenuation: atrophy (v), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj)
avoidance & separation: allergic (adj), allergy (n), quarantine (v)
behavior: addictive (adj), delirious (adj), delirium (n), demented, fever (behavior), frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), rabid, rabidly
character & personality: incurable
computer: infect (computers), quarantine (v), viral (computers), virus (computers)
condition & status: ailing (adj), anemic (adj), atrophy (v), basket case, bill of health, dead (dead on arrival), diseased, exhausted (adj), exhaustion (n), handicapped, health (condition), healthy (condition), hurting, last rites (n), life support (on life support), moribund (adj), prognosis (n), robust (adj), sclerotic (adj), shape (condition), sick (condition), sluggish (adj), test (stress test), unhealthy (condition), weary (condition), well (health), wheezing (condition), wounded (adj)
confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: triage (n)
consciousness & awareness: amnesia, conscious (aware), opiate (n)
• constraint & lack of constraint: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled
• control & lack of control: knee-jerk (adj)
• corruption: contagion (n), corrupting, corruption (n), fester (v), infect (corrupt), infected, infection (corruption), sickness (n)
• creation & transformation: doctored
• decline: life support (on life support)
• dependency: addicted (dependency), addiction (dependency), crutch (n)
• destruction: eviscerate (v), eviscerated, lacerate (v), pill (poison pill)
• development: head (come to a head)
• directing: inject (v), injection (n)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: amputate (remove)
• division & connection: hip (joined at the hip)
• enthusiasm: addict (chess addict, etc.), addicted (enthusiasm), addiction (enthusiasm), bitten (enthusiasm), bug (enthusiasm), crave (v), delirious (adj), delirium (n), disease (enthusiasm), flu (enthusiasm), infection (enthusiasm), junkie (person), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), mania (n)
• evidence: symptom
• experience: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• extent & scope: endemic (adj), epidemic
• failure, accident & impairment: malpractice (n), miscarriage (of justice, etc.), misdiagnose (v)
• fantasy & reality: addictive (adj), anodyne (adj), bromide (n), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), crippling, febrile (adj), heartsick, injury, nostrum (n), painful (adj), paralyzed (feeling), pill (bitter pill), shot (shot in the arm, etc.), sick (disgusted), sick (other), soothe (sensation), tonic (effect)
• flaws & lack of flaws: fit (adj), fitness (ability), lethargic (adj)
• force: impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj)
• functioning: atrophy (v), basket case, cripple (v), crippled, handicapped, impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), paralyze (v), paralyzed (functioning), paralysis (n), potency (strength), potent (adj)
• future: prognosis (n)
• growth & development: cancer (n), cancerous (adj), growth (cancerous, etc.), metastasize (v), tumor (n)
• haste: rash (hasty)
• heart: heartsick
• identity & nature: incurable
• increase & decrease: steroids (on steroids)
• initiation: patient zero
• judgment: triage (v), triage (n)
• power: potency (strength), potent (adj), steroids (on steroids)
• proper name: fever (fever tree, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: immune, immunity, inoculate (v), inoculation, quarantine (v)
• resemblance: rash (road rash, etc.)
• reversal: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
• script: prescription
• society: leper (person)
• speech: bromide (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: abort (v), spasmodic (adj)
• strength & weakness: anemic (adj), flabby (adj), healthy (strength), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj), puny (adj), robust (adj), steroids (on steroids)
• substance & lack of substance: Band-Aid (n)
• subterfuge: pill (poison pill)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: overdose (n)
• taxonomy & classification: strain (type)
• throwing, putting & planting: inject (v), injection (n)
• transmission: contagious, infectious, sneeze (v), viral, virulent (adj)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: crave (v)

**HEART (1)**
• bird: chicken-hearted
• container: heart (container)
• direction: downhearted, heart (heart sank)
• functioning: broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
• hardness & softness: hard-hearted (adj), soft-hearted (adj)
• health & medicine: heartsick
• materials & substances: heart (heart of stone, etc.), stone-hearted
• mechanism: broken-hearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbreak (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
• memorization: heart (by heart)
• size: bighearted
• taste: sweetheart (other)
• temperature: coldhearted (adj), heartwarming (adj), warmhearted (adj)
• weight: heart (heavy heart), heavy-hearted, light-hearted (adj)

**HEART (2)**
• allegiance, support & betrayal: heart (allegiance), heart (change of heart)
• amount: heart (half-hearted, etc.)
• bases: heart (basis)
• center & periphery: heart (center), heartland, heartwood
• character & personality: good-hearted, hard-hearted (adj), heart (young at heart, etc.), kind-hearted, soft-hearted (adj)
• commitment & determination: half-hearted, heart (commitment)
• courage & lack of courage: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted)
• death & life: heartbeat (n), heart (beating heart)
• destruction: heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• eagerness & reluctance: faint-hearted (the faint-hearted), heart (eagerness and reluctance)
• empathy & lack of empathy: coldhearted (adj), heart (empathy), heartless, stone-hearted
• feeling, emotion & effect: broken-hearted, coldhearted (adj), downhearted, heart (a broken heart, etc.), heart (heart sank), heart (knife in the heart, etc.), heart (miscellaneous), heartache, heartbreaking (adj), heartfelt, heartsick, heart-stopping, heartthrob, heartwarming (adj), heart-wrenching, heavy-hearted (adj), knife (knife in the heart), light-hearted (adj)
• identity & nature: heart (young at heart, etc.), heart (identity), heartland
• reversal: heart (change of heart)
• shape: heart (shape)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heart (sincerity), heartfelt (adj), heart-to-heart
• size: bighearted
• speed: heartbeat (in a heartbeat)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: heart-stopping
• vocative: sweetheart (vocative)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: heart (goal)
HEATING WATER (2)
- activity: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil (boil down to something)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: teapot (internet teapot, etc.)
- bases: boil (boil down to something)
- environment: cauldron (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: boiling point, boil over (v), seethe (verb)
- initiation: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- situation: hot water (in hot water), hot water (into hot water)

HEEL (2) (see also equilibrium & stability; foot; leg)
- eagerness & reluctance: heel (dig in one’s heels)
- oppression: heel (under the heel)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: heel (dig in one’s heels), heel (on one’s heels)
- sequence: heel (on the heels)

HEIGHT (2)
- achievement, recognition & praise: elevate (v), elevation (n), heights (to new heights, etc.), lofty (adj), pinnacle (achievement), rise (achievement), rise (achieve), rise (rising), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- admiration & contempt: look (look up to somebody), look down (look down on somebody), nose (look down one’s nose), pedestal (on a pedestal), pedestaled
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: loom (loom large, etc.), low (lying low), profile (low profile), profile (high profile), profile (attention), raise (attention), relief (in bold relief)
- behavior: rise (rise above something), road (the high road)
- character & personality: cavalier (adj), upstanding
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: rise (rise to the challenge, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: raise (feeling)
- hierarchy: cavalier (adj)
- importance & significance: capstone, paramount (adj), towering (towering figure, etc.)
- increase & decrease: ceiling (high point), floor (low point), heighten (v)
- presence & absence: loom (loom large, etc.)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
- pursuit, capture & escape: low (lying low)
- superiority & inferiority: dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), loom (loom large, etc.)

HELP & ASSISTANCE (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; disruption; sanctioning, authority & non-conformity; unanimity & consensus)
- allusion: Marshall Plan
- animal: mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, wing (under one’s wing)
- bird: mother hen, wing (under one's wing)
- boat: steward (n)
- boxing: sparring partner (role)
- clothing & accessories: eye (naked eye)
- creature: angel (guardian angel), angel (trail angel, etc.)
- direction: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)
• family: mother (den mother, etc.), mother hen, sister (big sister)
• finger: finger (lift a finger)
• hand: hand (bite the hand that feeds one), hand (help), handmaiden (help), handout
• history: Marshall Plan
• infrastructure: caretaker (role)
• journeys & trips: stepping stone
• ladder: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)
• magic: magic (trail magic, etc.)
• mechanism: wheel (training wheels)
• Middle Ages: knight (knight in shining armor), white knight
• military: armed, arsenal (amount), weapon (help)
• money: lend (lend a hand, etc.)
• person: caretaker (role), handmaiden (help), knight (knight in shining armor), mother (den mother, etc.), servant (n), sparring partner (role), steward (n), white knight
• plane: steward (role)
• religion: angel (guardian angel), angel (trail angel, etc.), savior (n)
• river: stepping stone
• royalty: handmaiden (help)
• speech: thanks (n)
• theater: repertoire (n)
• throwing, putting & planting: pitch in (help)
• tools & technology: device (n), instrument, tool (help)
• train: steward (role)
• verb: finger (lift a finger), lend (lend a hand, etc.), pitch in (help)
• verb to noun: thanks (n)
• weapon: armed, arsenal (amount), weapon (help)
• wind: tailwind (n)

**HIERARCHY (1)**
• animal: apex (apex animal, etc.), food chain, pecking order, top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
• bird: pecking order
• chain: chain of command
• direction: basement (hierarchy), ladder (hierarchy), tier (hierarchy)
• dog: top dog (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
• height: cavalier (adj)
• history: pyramid (hierarchy)
• horse: cavalier (adj)
• ladder: ladder (hierarchy), rung (on the bottom rung), rung (bottom rung), rung (other)
• military: chain of command
• Native Americans: totem pole
• number: common denominator
• position: apex (apex animal, etc.), barrel (at the bottom of the barrel), bottom (at the bottom), over (dominance), tier (hierarchy), top (on top), top dog (hierarchy), under (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: over (dominance), under (hierarchy)
• shape: pyramid (hierarchy)
• society: caste, untouchable (person)

**HISTORY (1)**
• burden: freighted
• journeys & trips: baggage, freighted
• burden: baggage
• weight: baggage, freighted

**HISTORY (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: laurels (praise)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something)
- amelioration & renewal: renaissance
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: Rosetta Stone
- behavior: barbaric (behavior), cowboy (person), wild West
- birth: renaissance
- certainty & uncertainty: Bermuda Triangle
- character & personality: cowboy (person)
- commitment & determination: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- complexity: byzantine
- comprehension & incomprehension: Rosetta Stone
- conflict: arena (in / inside the arena), cold war, gladiator (n), joust (v), jousting, match (death match), Stalingrad (epithet), wagon (circle the wagons), warpath (on the warpath), warrior (n)
- constraint & lack of constraint: Geneva Convention
- control & lack of control: cowboy (person), no man’s land (war and violence), wild West
- decline: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other)
- destruction: Chernobyl, holocaust, vandal (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: Manhattan Project, Marshall Plan, slave (v)
- disruption: Jacobin, revolution (n), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v)
- division & connection: balkanization (n), iron curtain, Maginot Line
- epithet: Lawrence (T.E.), nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Stalingrad (epithet), Waterloo
- failure, accident & impairment: Chernobyl, Waterloo
- fantasy & reality: El Dorado
- fate, fortune & chance: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
- growth & development: dark ages (in the dark ages), dark ages (other), gilded (Gilded Age), golden age / era, medieval (adj), Middle Ages (history), renaissance, revolution (n), revolutionary (adj), revolutionize (v), Stone Age
- help & assistance: Marshall Plan
- hierarchy: pyramid (hierarchy)
- hyperbole: slave (v)
- importance & significance: blaze (verb), pioneer (person), pioneering, revolution (n), revolutionary, revolutionize (v), triumvirate (n)
- judgment: inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: Dark Ages (in the Dark Ages), Dark Ages (other), medieval (adj), prehistoric (adj)
- money: gilded (Gilded Age)
- oppression: Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.), McCarthy, McCarthyite, reign of terror / fear, etc., tyrant, witch-hunt
- power: czar (n), empire (enterprise), mogul (n), overlord (person), pharaoh (power), tyrant
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: gilded (Gilded Age), golden age / era, legacy (obsolescence), medieval (adj), old guard, prehistoric (adj), renaissance, Stone Age
- protection & lack of protection: wagon (circle the wagons)
- reputation: legacy (reputation)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: barricade (storm the barricades), underground railroad, Waterloo
• restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
• size: Pharaonic (adj)
• subterfuge: nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.)
• superlative: golden age / era
• success & failure: Waterloo
• transmission: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• violence: medieval (adj)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: El Dorado
• work & duty: slave (v)

**HITTING, SLAMMING & LASHING (1)** *(see also force)*

• boxing: knock out (v), knockout (n), pummel (v), pummeled, punch (force)
• fist: bash (v), bashing (n), batter (v), beat (beat down), beat up (v), clobbered, clout (n), hit (affected), hit (force), knock out (v), knockout (n), pound (v), pummel (v), pummeled, punch (force), smitten, strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.)
• foot: kick (kick one’s butt, etc.)
• hammer: hammer (v), hammer (n)
• leg: kick (kick one’s butt, etc.)
• verb: bash (v), bashing (n), batter (v), beat (beat down), beat up (v), kick (kick one’s butt, etc.), knock out (v), lash (v), pound (v), pummel (v), slam (v), strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.), thrash (v)
• violence: backlash, bash (v), bashing (n), batter (v), beat (beat down), beat up (v), clobbered, clout (n), lash (v), pummel (v), pummeled, punch (force), slam (v), thrash (v), thrashed, trounced, whip (resemblance)
• weapon: smitten
• whip: backlash, thrash (v), thrashed, lash (v), whip (resemblance)

**HOLE (2)**

• concealment & lack of concealment: hole (spider hole)
• fantasy & reality: rabbit hole
• feeling, emotion & effect: hole (feeling)
• flaws & lack of flaws: chink (n), hole (flaw)
• involvement: hole (situation)
• protection & lack of protection: chink (n), foxhole
• situation: hole (situation)

**HORIZON (2)**

• experience: horizon (expand one's horizons)
• extent & scope: horizon (extent and scope)
• future: horizon (on the horizon)

**HORN (2)**

• branching system: multipronged
• conflict: head (butt heads), head-to-head, horn (lock horns)
• experience: greenhorn (person)
• proper name: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.)
• shape: horn (shape)

**HORSE (2)** *(see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)*

• affliction: gadfly (person)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: horse (switch horses), wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something)
• avoidance & separation: shy (shy away)
• certainty & uncertainty: hands down (certainty)
• character & personality: cavalier (adj), gadfly (person), hard-charging (adj), maverick (person), stud (n)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: cavalcade (n)
• competition: dead heat, jockey (v), neck and neck (adj)
• consciousness & awareness: blinder (n), blinkered (adj)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: shy (shy away)
• consciousness & awareness: blindered (adj)
• control & lack of control: harness (v), horse (hold your horses), rein (rein in), rein (reins of power, etc.), reined in, unbridled
• constraint & lack of constraint: rein (free rein), unbridled
• difficulty, easiness & effort: hands down (easily)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: pasture (put out to pasture), unseat (v)
• disruption: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
• driving force: outrider (n)
• eagerness & reluctance: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), horse (hold your horses)
• experience: ride (rough ride, etc.)
• failure, accident & impairment: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
• group, set & collection: cavalcade (n), stable (n)
• haste: canter (n), headlong, spur (on the spur of the moment), spur-of-the-moment
• hierarchy: cavalier (adj)
• initiation: spur (v), spurred
• position, policy & negotiation: horse-trading
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: pasture (put out to pasture)
• protection & lack of protection: inroads (make inroads)
• oppression: saddle (oppress), saddled
• perception, perspective & point of view: blinder (n), blinkered (adj)
• power: oats (feel one’s oats)
• proper name: saddle (Saddle Island, etc.), spur (Geneva Spur, etc.)
• resiliency: saddle (get back in the saddle)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: balk (v), buck (v)
• restraint & lack of restraint: unbridled
• role: saddle (acting saddle, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: buck (v)
• sex: stud (n)
• shape: saddle (shape), spur (shape)
• sound: gallop (n)
• speed: breakneck (adj), galloping
• starting, going, continuing & ending: balk (v), saddle (saddle up)
• strength & weakness: oats (feel one’s oats), workhorse (n)
• subterfuge: stalking-horse (n)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: wire (down to the wire)
• work & duty: workhorse (n)

**HOUR (2)**
• superlative: hour (finest hour)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: golden hour, hour (timeliness)

**HOUSE (2) (see also doors & thresholds)**
• acceptance & rejection: welcome (v)
• amelioration & renewal: house (a house in order), house (clean house)
• appearance & disappearance: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
• bases: edifice (n), foundation (n)
• concealment & lack of concealment: basement (hierarchy), closet
• destruction: roof (a roof can cave in)
• disruption: house (clean house)
• effect: home (hit home)
• extent & scope: roof (through the roof)
• failure, accident & impairment: roof (a roof can cave in)
• feeling, emotion & effect: home (hit home), home (feel at home), home (close to home), welcome (welcome news, etc.)
• increase & decrease: ceiling (high point), floor (low point), roof (through the roof)
• location: home (home for the archive, etc.), live (location)
• orientation: floor (pelvic floor, etc.), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
• origin: home (home of golf, etc.), house (origin)
• place: home (home for the archive, etc.), live (location)
• protection & lack of protection: home (home in Islam, etc.)
• proximity: backyard (in somebody's backyard), backyard (other), home (hit home), home (close to home), neighborhood (in the neighborhood)
• substance & lack of substance: house of cards
• welcome: home (feel at home)

HUNTING (2)
• appearance & disappearance: ground (go to ground), holed up
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: catchy (attention)
• attraction & repulsion: bait (n), lure (n), lure (v)
• behavior: hotshot (n)
• character & personality: hotshot (n)
• competition: game (game of cat and mouse, etc.)
• concealment & lack of concealment: ground (go to ground), holed up
• danger: pitfall (n), trap (n)
• destruction: gut (destroy)
• eagerness & reluctance: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• evidence: trail (digital trail, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: gutted (feeling)
• involvement: caught (caught up in something), caught (other), ensnare (v), ensnared, snare (v), trapped
• past & present: catch up (pursuit)
• protection & lack of protection: ground (go to ground), holed up
• pursuit, capture & escape: bait (n), capture (v), catch up (pursuit), ensnare (v), ensnared, expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), go (go after somebody / attack), ground (go to ground), headhunter (n), holed up, hunt (v), hunt (n), hunt (in the hunt), hunt down (v), hunter (plant), hunter (other), low (lying low), lure (v), lure (n), out (leave somebody an out, etc.), pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), pursuit (in pursuit), pursuit (other), scent (throw somebody off the scent), snare (v), stalk (v), track (cover one’s tracks), track down (v), tracked (followed), tracking, trail (follow), trail (throw somebody off the trail), trail (digital trail, etc.), trap (n), trapped
• searching & discovery: expedition (fishing expedition), search (for truth, cure, etc.), track down (v)
• subterfuge: scent (throw somebody off the scent), stalking-horse, trail (throw somebody off the trail), trap (n)
• success & failure: dog (dog won’t hunt)
HYGIENE (2) (see also clothing & accessories)
- amelioration & renewal: act (clean up one’s act), clean (come clean), clean (v), clean up (improve), disinfectant (n), house (clean house), order (get something in order, etc.)
- behavior: act (clean up one’s act), dirty (behavior)
- character & personality: mess (person)
- concealment & lack of concealment: clean (come clean), dirty laundry, launder (v), sanitize (v), sanitized, scrub (remove)
- condition & status: clean (addiction)
- corruption: filthy (corruption)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: filter (v)
- disruption: house (clean house)
- environment: cesspool (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: clean (a clean record, etc.), mess (n), messy (adj)
- guilt: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- insult: scum (insult)
- involvement: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- sex: dirty (sex), filthy (sex)
- situation: mess (n)
- speech: clean up (speech), dirty word
- subterfuge: launder (v)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: filthy (filthy rich)
- violence: brainwash (v), brainwashed, cleanse (violence), cleansing (ethnic cleansing), cleanup (military), scum (insult)
- worth & lack of worth: filthy (bad), scum (insult)

HYPERBOLE (1)
- bodily process: retch (v)
- clothing & accessories: pants (scare the pants off somebody)
- death & life: die (hyperbole), death (to death)
- history: slave (v)
- money: sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin (jump out of one’s skin)
- verb: retch (v), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.), skin (jump out of one’s skin), slave (v)

IDEA (1)
- animal: sacred cow
- container: box (out / outside the box)
- head: brainchild, brainstorm (v), brainstorm (n)
- light & dark: light bulb
- religion: iconoclasm (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), piety (n), sacred cow, shibboleth
- storm: brainstorm (n), brainstorm (v)
- verb: brainstorm (v)

IDENTITY & NATURE (1) (see also behavior; character & personality)
- air: air (environment)
- allusion: believer (true believer)
- animal: animal (political animal, etc.), creature (creature of habit, etc.)
- atmosphere: air (environment)
- biology: DNA (in the DNA), DNA (other), gene (in one’s genes)
- birth: born (born teacher, etc.)
• blood: blood (in one's blood), vein (tap a vein)
• carpets & rugs: tapestry (n)
• cloth: cloth (cut from cloth), dyed-in-the-wool, tapestry (n)
• color: blue (politics), red (politics)
• container: melting pot (n)
• cooking: bake (attach), baked (baked in / into)
• creature: creature (creature of habit, etc.)
• face: faceless
• family: child (product)
• fire: melting pot (n)
• flags & banners: colors (true colors)
• food & drink: bowl (salad bowl / mixture), gumbo (mixture), pie (apple pie)
• ground, terrain & land: embedded
• health & medicine: incurable
• heart: heart (young at heart, etc.), heart (identity), heartland
• infrastructure: built in
• mental health: identity crisis
• mining: melting pot (n)
• music: anthem
• person: child (product)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: about (character)
• religion: born-again, soul (identity)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: bone (racist bone, etc.)
• temperature: melting pot (n)

ILIAD & ODYSSEY (2)
• alternatives & choices: Scylla and Charybdis
• attraction & repulsion: siren (siren call), siren (other)
• coercion & motivation: hector (v)
• computer: Trojan horse (computers)
• danger: Scylla and Charybdis
• development: odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other)
• initiation: ship (launched a thousand ships)
• message: Cassandra
• proper name: Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: Achilles’ heel (n)
• strength & weakness: Achilles' heel
• subterfuge: Trojan horse (subterfuge)
• superlative: epic, Homeric (adj)

IMPORTANCE & SIGNIFICANCE (1) (see also achievement, recognition & praise; bases; priority; superlative)
• allusion: triumvirate (n)
• animal: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• arm: arm (right arm)
• astronomy: planet (n)
• center & periphery: centerpiece, central (adj), sideshow (n)
• circus: sideshow (n)
• creature: giant (achievement), titan (n)
• direction: burner (front burner), back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), front (front and center)
• farming & agriculture: ground (break ground), groundbreaking
• fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• food & drink: bread-and-butter (adj), mother (mother’s milk), nothing-burger
• fortification: salient (important)
• gambling: stake (importance), stake (high stakes)
• ground, terrain & land: ground (break ground), groundbreaking, landmark, salient (important)
• hand: right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
• height: capstone, paramount (adj), towering (towering figure, etc.)
• history: blaze (v), pioneer (person), pioneering, revolution (n), revolutionary, revolutionize (v), triumvirate (n)
• infrastructure: capstone, ground (break ground), monument, monumental, towering (towering figure, etc.)
• journeys & trips: blaze (v), landmark, milestone, pathbreaking, trail (blaze a trail), trailblazer (person), trailblazing
• key: key (important)
• mechanism: cog (n), kingpin, linchpin, pivotal
• military: breakthrough (n), salient (important)
• money: million-dollar
• mountains & hills: paramount (adj)
• movement: breakthrough (n)
• person: pioneer (person), trailblazer (person)
• position: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), centerpiece, front (front and center), right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
• potato: potato (small potatoes)
• religion: fetish (n), fetishize (v), hallowed (adj), idolized, sacred (adj), venerate (v), worship (v)
• river: watershed (n)
• size: big (big name, etc.), colossus (n), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (achievement), minnow (n), potato (small potatoes), titan (n), towering (towering figure, etc.)
• sound: keynote (n)
• sports & games: big-league, game (game-changer)
• statue: colossus (n)
• theater: role (function or part)
• verb: fetishize (v), revolutionize (v), trail (blaze a trail), venerate (v), worship (v)
• weight: weighty (substance)

IMPRESSION (1)
• fire: burned (impressed), seared
• mark: engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, imprint, mark (effect), seared, stamp (impression), stamped
• materials & substances: plastered (impression)
• sensation: burned (impressed), sensation
• tools & technology: engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, stamp (impression), stamped
• verb: etch (v)

INAUGURATION (1)
• cloth: unveil (make public), wrap (take the wraps off something)
• flying & falling: launch (v)
• mechanism: drop (product launch), drop (v), roll out (v), launch (v)
• verb: launch (v), drop (v), roll out (v), unveil (make public), wrap (take the wraps off something)
INCLUSION & EXCLUSION (1) (see also acceptance & rejection; attraction & repulsion; avoidance & separation; division & connection; dismissal, removal & resignation)

• infrastructure: square (public square)
• snow & ice: frozen out (excluded)
• speech: square (public square)
• table: table (inclusivity)
• temperature: cold (in the cold), freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded)
• tent: tent (inclusivity)
• verb: freeze out (v)

INCREASE & DECREASE (1) (see also decline)

• air: ballooning, inflate (v), inflated, overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v)
• astronomy: wane (v), wax (wax & wane)
• atmosphere: balloon (v), balloon (n), ballooning, inflate (v), inflated, overinflated (adj), oxygen (fuel), pump up (v), stratospheric
• ball: rebound (v)
• balloon: balloon (v), balloon (n), ballooning, inflate (v), inflated
• blade: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
• chemistry: oxygen (fuel)
• direction: boost (v), boost (n), ceiling (high point), climb (increase), dial (dial down / back), dip (n), elevated, floor (low point), heighten (v), jack up (v), level (take something to a higher level), level off (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), rise (on the rise), rocket (increase), roller coaster (development), skyrocket (increase), slip (v), soar (v), spiral (downward or upward), spiraling (increase), stratospheric, up (increase), up (higher), upsurge (n), uptick (n), upturn (n), yo-yo (up and down)
• electricity: amp up (v), step up (increase)
• engine: rev up (v), turbocharge (v)
• explosion: blow up (attention / verb), blowup (attention / noun), boom (increase), explode (increase), exploding, explosion (increase), explosive (increase)
• fire: accelerant (n), fan (v), fire (fuel on the fire, etc.), fuel (v), fuel (n), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), fueled, inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle (v), oil (pour oil), oxygen (fuel), stoke (v)
• flying & falling: nosedive (verb / decrease), nosedive (noun / decrease), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (noun / decline), plunge (decline / decrease), rocket (increase), roof (through the roof), soar (v)
• food & drink: feed (fuel), feed (feed on / off / into something)
• force: boost (v), boost (n)
• hardness & softness: harden (increase)
• health & medicine: steroids (on steroids)
• height: ceiling (high point), floor (low point), heighten (v)
• house: ceiling (high point), floor (low point), roof (through the roof)
• infrastructure: build up (v)
• knife: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
• light & dark: burnish (v)
• mechanism: crank up (v), dial (dial down / back), gear up (v), pump up (v), ratchet up (v), turn up (increase)
• military: multiplier (force multiplier)
• moon: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• mountains & hills: peak (at the peak), peak (other), plateau (n), plateau (v)
• movement: accelerate (v), creep (mission creep, etc.), escalate (v), momentum (n), roller coaster (development), yo-yo (up and down)
• number: multiplier (force multiplier)
• pile: mount (v), mounting, pile on (increase), pile up (v)
• plane: nosedive (noun / decrease), nosedive (verb / decrease), spiral (downward or upward)
• plant: burgeoning (adj), grow (increase), growing (increasing)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: up (higher)
• pressure: ratchet up (v)
• rocket: rocket (increase), skyrocket (increase)
• roof: roof (through the roof)
• shape: bump (increase), plateau (n), plateau (v), spike (increase), spike (spike in business, etc.)
• size: big (v), shrink (downsize), swell (v)
• sky: skyrocket (increase)
• snow & ice: snowball (v), snowball (snowball effect)
• sound: amplify (v)
• sports & games: roller coaster (development), yo-yo (up and down)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: accelerate (v)
• tide: flow (increase), surge (intransitive verb / increase)
• tools & technology: jack up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v)
• verb: accelerate (v), amplify (v), balloon (v), big (v), blow up (attention / verb), boom (increase), boost (v), boost (n), build up (v), burnish (v), climb (increase), crank up (v), dial (dial down / back), escalate (v), explode (increase), fan (v), feed (fuel), flow (increase), fuel (v), fuel (pour fuel on something, etc.), gear up (v), grow (increase), harden (increase), heighten (v), inflame (v), inflate (v), jack up (v), jump (increase), kindle (v), level off (v), mount (v), nosedive (verb / decrease), oil (pour oil), pile on (increase), pile up (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), pump up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v), rebound (v), rev up (v), rocket (increase), sharpen (v), shoot (shoot up), shrink (downsize), skyrocket (increase), slip (v), snowball (v), soar (v), spike (increase), spiral (downward or upward), step up (increase), stoke (v), surge (intransitive verb / increase), swell (v), turbocharge (v), turn up (increase), up (increase), wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (increase), jump (n), leap (leaps and bounds)
• water: buoyant (strong), flow (increase), surge (intransitive verb / increase)
• weapon: shoot (shoot up)

**INFRAS** **TRUCTURE (2) (see also dam)**
• achievement, recognition & praise: pinnacle (achievement)
• affliction: alley (Cancer Alley)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: prop up (v)
• amelioration & renewal: bolster (v), bolstered, buttress (v), prop up, put (put something back together), rebuild (v), scaffolding, shore up
• amount: suite (n), warehouse (amount)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: deconstruct (v), deconstruction (n), frame (characterize)
• appearance & reality: facade (n), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
• attachment: built in, locked (locked in a battle, etc.)
• bases: building block, cornerstone, infrastructure (n), keystone, pillar (basis), plank (n), plumbing (n)
• behavior: gutter (in the gutter), gutter (out of the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
• characterization: frame (characterize)
• complexity: labyrinth, maze
• computer: warehousing (data)
• concealment & lack of concealment: facade (n), whitewash (n), whitewash (v)
• configuration: built, built in, built-in
• conflict: arena (in / inside the arena)
• constraint & lack of constraint: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), spigot (n)
• creation & transformation: architect, build (create), drawing board (on the drawing board), drawing board (other), engineered
• curtailment: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
• death & life: life (life is a building)
• decline: gutter (in the gutter / decline), gutter (end up in the gutter), gutter (gutter politics, etc.)
• destruction: buckle (give way), collapse (n), crash (crash down), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), ruin (v), ruin (in ruins), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, tube (go down the tubes)
• direction: lighthouse
• dismissal, removal & resignation: dismantle (v), plug (pull the plug)
• epithet: alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.)
• experience: alley (up one’s alley), lane (experience)
• failure, accident & impairment: buckle (give way), collapse (n), drain (go down the drain, etc.), pipe (go down the pipes), pothole (n), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v)
• group & collection: suite (suite of tools, etc.)
• growth & development: drawing board (on the drawing board), drawing board (other)
• help & assistance: caretaker (role)
• identity & nature: built in
• importance & significance: ground (break ground), capstone, monument, monumental, towering (towering figure, etc.)
• inclusion & exclusion: square (public square)
• increase & decrease: build up (v)
• interest: alley (up one's alley), lane (experience)
• leaking: spigot (n)
• obstacles & impedance: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), pothole (n)
• past & present: memory lane (down memory lane)
• perception, perspective & point of view: tunnel vision
• portal: avenue (portal)
• power: hall (halls of academe, etc.), corridor (corridors of power)
• progress & lack of progress: blind alley (n)
• proper name: buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.), courthouse (Devil's Courthouse, etc.), Hilton (Fontana Hilton, etc.), pillar (Pillar Rock, etc.), pipeline (Pipeline, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: guardrail (protection)
• readiness & preparedness: brace (v), braced
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
• resemblance: buttress (n), pillar (resemblance), street (cloud street, etc.), tunnel (resemblance)
• resiliency: put (put something back together)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: buckle (give way)
• route: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), alley (Bat Alley, etc.), alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), alley (Death Alley, etc.), avenue (route), bridge (air bridge, etc.), corridor (route), expressway, highway (iceberg highway, etc.), pipeline (other), superhighway
• script: blueprint
• shape: canal (birth canal, etc.), pipe (sports), pipeline (shape)
• situation: maze (other)
• social interaction: street (two-way street)
• society: square (public square), street (society)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: ramp (off-ramp)
• substance & lack of substance: facade (n)
• success & failure: blind alley (n)
INITIATION (1) (see also reconciliation, resolution & conclusion; starting, going, continuing & stopping)

- air: oxygen (fuel)
- allusion: Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), ship (launched a thousand ships)
- atmosphere: oxygen (fuel)
- bird: hatch (v), hatched
- bottle: uncork (v)
- bubble: bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj)
- chemistry: catalyst (n), oxygen (fuel)
- cooking: stir (v), stir up (v)
- creature: genie (initiation), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), worm (can of worms)
- death & life: life (spring to life)
- dog: unleash (v), unleashed
- earthquake: tremor (n)
- electricity: galvanize (v), spark plug
- engine: jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v)
- explosion: blow up (attention / verb), blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), burst (burst into violence, etc.), detonate (v), dynamite (n), explode (increase), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explosion (violence, etc.), explosive (violence, etc.), fuse (n), go off (v), powder keg, set off (v), time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.), tripwire (initiation), volatile
- fire: ablaze (set something ablaze), alight (fire), combustible, fan (v), fiery (character), fiery (speech), fire (catch fire), flare (v), flare up (v), flare-up (n), flashpoint, fuel (v), fuel (n), ignite, incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), inflame (v), inflammatory (adj), kindle, oxygen (fuel), re-ignite, rekindle, spark (v), spark (n), stoke (v), tinderbox (violence, etc.), volatile
- flying & falling: launch (v), take off (v)
- foot: kick in (start), kick up (v)
- head: head start
- health & medicine: patient zero
- heating water: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- horse: spur (v), spurred
- initiation: ship (launched a thousand ships)
- journeys & trips: head start
- leg: kick in (start), kick-start (v), kick up (v)
- mechanism: kick in (start), launching pad, springboard (n)
- military: tripwire (initiation)
- movement: head start, swirl (v)
- plane: take off (v)
- pressure: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), explode (emotion), uncork (v)
- religion: Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
- rocket: launching pad
- scale: scale (tip the scales)
- teeth: toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
- temperature: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), combustible, fiery (character), fiery (speech), incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- throwing, putting & planting: launch (v)
verb: blow up (attention / verb), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), burst (burst into violence, etc.), detonate (v), erupt (v), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explode (increase), fan (v), flare (v), flare up (v), fuel (v), galvanize (v), go off (v), hatch (v), ignite (v), inflame (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick-start (v), kick up (v), kindle (v), launch (v), life (spring to life), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), percolate (v), re-ignite (v), rekindle (v), scale (tip the scales), seethe (v), set off (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), spark (v), spur (v), stir (v), stir up (v), stoke (v), swirl (v), take off (v), trigger (v), trigger (pull the trigger), unleash (v)
• volcano: erupt (v), eruption, tremor (n)
• walking, running & jumping: jumping
• water: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), springboard (n), swirl (v)
• weapon: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), explode (emotion), fuse (n), hair-trigger, trigger (v), trigger (n), trigger (pull the trigger), tripwire (initiation)
• weight: scale (tip the scales), straw (the last straw)

INSECT (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; lion; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• activity: abuzz (activity), bee (busy as a bee), beehive (activity), buzz (activity), crawl (activity), hive (n), hornet’s nest, swarm (v), swarm (n)
• affliction: gadfly (person), infest (v), infested, riddled
• amount & effect: swarm (v), swarm (n)
• appearance & disappearance: woodwork (come out of the woodwork, etc.)
• avoidance & separation: cocoon (isolation)
• behavior: descend (descend on), swarm (v), swarm (n)
• character & personality: butterfly (social butterfly), gadfly (person)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: descend (descend on)
• concealment & lack of concealment: hole (spider hole)
• conflict: hornet’s nest
• creation & transformation: web (spin a web)
• danger: hornet’s nest
• dismissal, removal & resignation: mothball (v)
• division & connection: cocoon (isolation)
• environment: beehive (activity), hornet’s nest
• feeling, emotion & effect: butterfly (butterflies in stomach), stinging (adj), stung (feeling)
• involvement: web (entanglement)
• isolation & remoteness: cocoon (isolation), cocooned
• perception, perspective & point of view: worm’s eye (adj)
• person: gadfly (person)
• place: hole (spider hole)
• proper name: beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: cocoon (isolation)
• resemblance: cocoon (resemblance)
• sensation: sting (n)
• sex: bee (the birds and the bees)
• shape: butterfly (shape), web (spider web, etc.)
• situation: web (situation)
• sound: buzz (sound), cricket (n)
• subterfuge: web (spin a web)
• surveillance: fly (fly on the wall)
• violence: termite (n)

**INSULT (1)**
- animal: animal (insult), dog (insult), beast (insult), donkey, jackass (n), pig (insult)
- dog: dog (insult)
- face: face (slap in the face), slap (slap in the face, etc.)
- gesture: nose (thumb one’s nose), slap (slap in the face, etc.)
- hygiene: scum (insult)
- nose: thumb (thumb one’s nose)
- religion: hell (go to hell)
- speech: joke (it’s a joke, etc.), punchline (joke), talk (trash talk)
- verb: nose (thumb one’s nose)
- waste: talk (trash talk)

**INTEREST (1)**
- boat: wheelhouse (n)
- dog: dog (dog in the hunt)
- gambling: stakeholder
- head: brain (on the brain)
- infrastructure: alley (up one’s alley), lane (experience)

**INVOLVEMENT (1) (see also concealment & lack of concealment)**
- animal: wallow (v), web (entanglement)
- blood: hand (bloody hands, etc.), blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.)
- boxing: weigh in (v)
- burden: drag (drag somebody into something)
- burial: buried (buried in debt, etc.)
- cloth: skein (entanglement), web (entanglement), wrapped (wrapped up in something)
- container: get (get into something), in (in deep, etc.), into (involvement)
- direction: get (get into something), leave (leave something alone)
- eye: eyeball (up to one’s eyeballs)
- flying & falling: plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement)
- food & drink: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
- foot: toe (dip one’s toes)
- ground, terrain & land: thick (in the thick of things)
- hand: blood (blood on one’s hands, etc.), hand (at the hands), hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.), hand (bloody hands, etc.)
- hole: hole (situation)
- hunting: caught (caught up in something), caught (other), ensnare (v), ensnared, snare (v), trapped
- hygiene: hand (clean and dirty hands, etc.)
- insect: web (entanglement)
- meat: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
- military: missing in action (MIA)
- mixture: mix (in / into the mix), mixed up
- neck: neck (up to one’s neck)
- picture: frame (in the frame / involvement), picture (out of the picture), picture (in the picture)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: in (in deep, etc.), into (involvement)
- rope: bound up, enmeshed, entangled (involvement), string (attachment)
- sound: chime in (v)
- spider: web (entanglement)
• sports & games: game (in / into the game), sideline (on the sideline), sideline (other), weigh in (v)
• teeth: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• throwing, putting & planting: throw (throw oneself into something)
• toe: toe (dip one’s toes)
• verb: chime in (v), dive in (v), drag (drag somebody into something), ensnare (v), get (get into something), head (get in over one’s head, etc.), jump (jump in), leave (leave something alone), plunge (plunge into something), snare (v), step in (v), stumble (stumble into something), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something), throw (throw oneself into something), wade (wade in / into), wallow (v), weigh in (v)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (jump in), step in (v), stumble (stumble into something)
• water: deep (in deep), dive in (v), end (go off the deep end), end (deep end), head (get in over one’s head, etc.), immerse (v), immersed, immersion, plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement), toe (dip one’s toes), wade (wade in / into), water (deep water)
• weight: weigh in (v)

ISLAND (2) (see also sea)
• configuration: archipelago (n)
• division & connection: insular (adj)
• environment: island (island of affluence, etc.)
• isolation & remoteness: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned
• migration: Ellis Island (epithet)
• person: castaway (person)
• resemblance: island (beech island, etc.)
• society: castaway (person), island (society), marooned

ISOLATION & REMOTENESS (1)
• animal: carapace (protection), shell (protection)
• astronomy: black hole
• bird: cooped up
• bubble: bubble (isolation)
• container: bubble (isolation)
• electricity: insulate (v), insulated, insulation
• epithet: hermit (epithet), North Korea (epithet)
• farming & agriculture: silo (academic silos, etc.), siloed
• insect: cocoon (isolation), cocooned
• island: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned
• journeys & trips: no man’s land (people), path (off the beaten path), track (off the beaten track), way (out of the way / remote)
• map: no man’s land (people)
• person: castaway (person), hermit (person)
• religion: cloistered
• river: backwater
• sea: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned, shell (protection)
• throwing, putting & planting: castaway (person)
• verb: insulate (v)
• water: bubble (isolation), shell (protection)

JOURNEYS & TRIPS (2) (see also movement)
• achievement, recognition & praise: milestone
• action, inaction & delay: can (kick the can down the road), road (push something down the road)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: go (go along), road (road to Damascus)
• alternatives & choices: crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), path (alternatives and choices), road (fork in the road, etc.)
• amelioration & renewal: way (pave the way)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: explore (analyze), get (get somewhere), go on (explain)
• area: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.), wilderness (area)
• attainment: get (get somewhere), way (all the way)
• certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
• character & personality: easygoing
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: circle back (v), get (get somewhere)
• commitment & determination: return (point of no return)
• competition: pass (progress)
• comprehension & incomprehension: follow (argument)
• condition & status: go (progress)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: can (kick the can down the road), bridge (cross that bridge), go (not go there), road (go down that road, etc.), road (push something down the road)
• consciousness & awareness: road (road to Damascus)
• course: detour (n), direction (in a direction), direction (journey), journey (in one’s journey), journey (on a journey), journey (n), passage, path (on the path), path (on a path), path (down a path), path (path of peace, etc.), path (path to / toward legalization, etc.), rite (rite of passage), road (road from / to something), road (along / on the road), road (long road), route (course), shortcut (n), way (along the way)
• creation & transformation: road (road to Damascus)
• danger: woods (out of the woods)
• development: course (development), hegira (and hejira), odyssey (on an odyssey), odyssey (other), path (a path can turn), return (point of no return), road (turn in the road, etc.), saga (n), trajectory (n), turn (development)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: corner (cut corners), path (tough / easy path, etc.), road (long road), road (tough / easy road, etc.), shortcut (n), slog (long hard slog, etc.), way (go out of one's way)
• directing: guide (v), shepherd (v), take (take somebody somewhere)
• direction: beacon (n), bearing (v), chart (v), course (change course, etc.), course (course of action, etc.), course (direction), crossroad (at a crossroad), crossroad (other), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), fork (a fork in the road, etc.), go (direction), guide (v), guide (person), guide (nonperson), head (into the future), headed, landmark, lead (one thing leads to another), light (guiding light), lodestar, lodestone, lost (direction), mislead (v), misleading, navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), plot (v), road (turn in the road, etc.), stray (direction), uncharted (adj), way (lose one's way), way (find one's way), way (direction), way (the wrong way), way (know one’s way around)
• driving force: pioneer (person), way (lead the way)
• eagerness & reluctance: go (not go there), path (beat a path), road (go down that road, etc.)
• experience: go (go through something), road (down a road before)
• failure, accident & impairment: dead end, pothole (n), turn (wrong turn), way (lose one’s way)
• fate, fortune & chance: path (cross paths), return (point of no return)
• feeling, emotion & effect: follow (follow a feeling or emotion)
• fictive transportation: take (take somebody somewhere)
• flaws & lack of flaws: path (tough / easy path, etc.), road (tough / easy road, etc.)
• future: ahead (future), forward (future), go (where are we going, etc.), road (down the road, etc.)
• growth & development: passage, rite (rite of passage)
• help & assistance: stepping stone
• history: baggage, freighted
• importance & significance: blaze (v), landmark, milestone, pathbreaking, trail (blaze a trail), trailblazer (person), trailblazing
• initiation: head start
• isolation & remoteness: no man’s land (people), path (off the beaten path), track (off the beaten track), way (out of the way / remote)
• knowledge & intelligence: way (know one’s way around)
• migration: nomad (person)
• obstacles & impedance: bump (bump in the road, etc.), gridlocked, impasse (n), path (in the path), pothole (n), roadblock, way (in the way), way (out of the way / obstacles)
• operation: course (course of justice, etc.)
• oppression: freighted
• past & present: back (go back in time, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), back up (v), circle back (v), road (down a road before), walk (walk somebody back)
• person: guide (person), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), nomad (person), pioneer (person), trailblazer (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: lost (extinction), pass by (progress), way (on the way out), way (give way to something), way (go the way of something), wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.)
• progress & lack of progress: beginning (progress), blind alley (n), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), come (come a long way), far (progress), forward (move forward, etc.), go (a distance to go, etc.), go (progress), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), journey, keep up (progress), milestone, move (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), road (road from / to something), setback (progress), step (a step in the right direction), there (destination), turn back (v), way (a long way), wind (wind its way)
• proper name: road (the Silk Road, etc.)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: end (no end in sight), get (get through something), get (get over something), move on (resiliency)
• resiliency: get (get through something), get (get over something), go on (v), move on (resiliency)
• reversal: backtrack (reversal), course (reverse course), road (road to Damascus), turnabout (reversal)
• route: pathway (route), trail (campaign trail, etc.), way (route)
• script: road map
• social interaction: go (go along)
• speed: plod (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: ahead (go ahead), embark (embark on something), beginning (progress), end (no end in sight), end (no end in sight), go on (v), head start, jumping-off place / point, move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), outset (from the outset), outset (at the outset), push (push on), road (end of the road), set out / off (v), track (stop something in its tracks), underway, way (on the way), way (every step of the way)
• success & failure: blind alley (n), dead end, way (all the way), wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.)
• survival, persistence & endurance: get (get through something), get (get over something), go (go through something), go on (v), road (road from / to something), trail (trail of tears), wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.), woods (out of the woods)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (cross that bridge), head start
• unanimity & consensus: go (go along)

**JUDGMENT (1)** (see also punishment & recrimination; sanctioning, authority & non-conformity)

• allusion: draconian (adj), Solomonic (adj)
• animal: chicken (come home to roost), kangaroo court
• baseball: call (close call), call (the right call)
• Bible: Solomonic (adj)

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 858 of 982
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bird</td>
<td>chicken (come home to roost)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Reading</td>
<td>book (judge a book by its cover)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face</td>
<td>frown (v), smile (v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food &amp; Drink</td>
<td>taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gesture</td>
<td>frown (v), nod (agree), smile (v), thumbs-down, thumbs-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand</td>
<td>even-handed (adj), thumbs-down, thumbs-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head</td>
<td>nod (agree)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; Medicine</td>
<td>triage (v), triage (n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
<td>call (close call), call (the right call), chicken (come home to roost), court (in the court), court (other), crime (judgment), hanging (hanging offense), judge (role), judged, jury (the jury is out), kangaroo court, trial (show trial), verdict (n), witch-hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military</td>
<td>firing squad, muster (pass muster)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person</td>
<td>judge (role)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Solomonic (adj)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale</td>
<td>weigh (analyze)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School &amp; Education</td>
<td>mark (high mark), report card</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign, Signal, Symbol</td>
<td>frown (v), smile (v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound</td>
<td>boo (n), cheer (n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech</td>
<td>callout (criticism), speak (the people have spoken, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports &amp; Games</td>
<td>call (close call), call (the right call)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stomach</td>
<td>gut (n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sword</td>
<td>sword (fall on one’s sword)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taste</td>
<td>taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater</td>
<td>review (n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verb</td>
<td>frown (v), muster (pass muster), nod (agree), smile (v), triage (v), weigh (analyze)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence</td>
<td>hanging (hanging offense), inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>weigh (analyze)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**JUNGLE (2)**
- competition: jungle (competition), law (law of the jungle, etc.)
- danger: jungle (competition)
- environment: jungle (environment)
- predation: law (law of the jungle, etc.)

**JUSTICE (2)**
- certainty & uncertainty: jury (the jury is out)
- constraint & lack of constraint: Geneva Convention
- control & lack of control: police (v)
- death & life: capital punishment, death (death sentence)
- epithet: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: reprieve (n)
- haste: rush (rush to judgment)
- judgment: call (close call), call (the right call), chicken (come home to roost), court (in the court), court (other), crime (judgment), hanging (hanging offense), judge (role), judged, jury (the jury is out), kangaroo court, trial (show trial), verdict (n), witch-hunt
- operation: wheel (wheels of justice, etc.)
- oppression: kangaroo court, police (thought police, etc.), trial (show trial), witch-hunt
- punishment & recrimination: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.), hanging (hanging offense), hook (off the hook), reprieve (n), sentence (life sentence)
• pursuit, capture & escape: hook (off the hook)
• reversal: chicken (come home to roost)

KEY (2)
• concealment & lack of concealment: lock (lock something away), lock (under lock and key)
• feeling, emotion & effect: lock (lock something away)
• importance & significance: key (important)
• punishment & recrimination: key (throw away the key)
• searching & discovery: unlock (v)

KNEE (2)
• condition & status: knee (bring to one’s knees), knee (on knees)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: knee (bring to one’s knees)

KNIFE (2) (see also ax; blade; sword; weapon)
• ability & lack of ability: edge (lose one’s edge)
• affliction: cut (a thousand cuts)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: backstabber, backstabbing, cutthroat, stab (stab somebody in the back)
• amelioration & renewal: hone (v), sharpen (v)
• amount: slice (piece)
• attempt: stab (attempt)
• behavior: backstabber, backstabbing, cutthroat
• character & personality: backstabber
• competition: cutthroat
• computer: scrape (v)
• condition & status: honed, sharp
• creation & transformation: carved out, carve out (v)
• decline: whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• destruction: dagger, heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: cut (n), cut (v), scrape (v), slash (v), trim (v), whittled, whittling (whittling down)
• feeling, emotion & effect: cut (cut both ways), dagger, heart (knife in the heart, etc.), knife (knife in the heart), stab (sensation)
• flaws & lack of flaws: dull (adj), edge (lose one’s edge)
• functioning: honed, sharp (adj)
• increase & decrease: appetite (whet the appetite), sharpen (v), whet (whet the appetite)
• resemblance: slice (road slices, etc.)
• sensation: stab (sensation), stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.)
• shape: knife-edged
• speech: blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
• survival, persistence & endurance: scrape by (v)

KNOWLEDGE & INTELLIGENCE (1)
• books & reading: encyclopedia (n), encyclopedic (adj)
• boat: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
• creature: genie (knowledge), wizard (person), wizardry
• epithet: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
• ground, terrain & land: way (know one’s way around)
• head: brain (n), brain drain / gain, brain trust
• history: Dark Ages (in the Dark Ages), Dark Ages (other), medieval (adj), prehistoric (adj)
• journeys & trips: way (know one’s way around)
• magic: wizard (person), wizardry
• mechanism: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), smart (technology)
• music: chops (expertise)
• person: guru (person), savant (n), scientist (rock scientist)
• religion: guru (person)
• school & education: IQ (ability), masterclass (n)
• shape: loop (in the loop)
• school & education: learn (v), lesson, note (compare notes), schooled
• stomach: gut (n)
• verb: learn (v)

LADDER (2)
• help & assistance: ladder (ladders of opportunity, etc.)
• hierarchy: ladder (hierarchy), rung (on the bottom rung), rung (bottom rung), rung (other)

LANDSLIDE (2) (see also earthquake; ground, terrain & land; mountains & hills; volcano)
• amount & effect: landslide (in a landslide), landslide (by a landslide), landslide (other)

LANGUAGE (1)
• tongue: tongue (language)

LEAKING (1) (see also movement)
• blood: bleed (v), bleed (n), bleeding, hemorrhage (n)
• infrastructure: spigot (n)
• verb: bleed (v), drain (v), leak (v), leak out (v)
• water: drain (v), drain (n), leak (v), leak (n), leaked, leak out (v), spigot (n)

LEG (2) (see also equilibrium & stability; foot; heel; walking, running & jumping)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: leg (leg to stand on)
• configuration: straddle (configuration)
• constraint & lack of constraint: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled
• dismissal, removal & resignation: kicked off, kicked out, kick out (v)
• division & connection: foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
• growth & development: leg (grow legs)
• hitting, slamming & lashing: kick (kick one’s butt, etc.)
• initiation: kick in (start), kick-start (v), kick up (v)
• sequence: leg (first leg, etc.)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v)

LETTERS & CHARACTERS (2) (see also books & reading; writing & spelling)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: spelled out, spell out (v)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: exclamation point, full stop, punctuate (v), underline (attention), underscore (attention)
• failure, accident & impairment: T-bone (v), T-boned
• certainty & uncertainty: question mark
• configuration: punctuate (configuration)
• cost & benefit: plus (benefit)
• mixture: soup (alphabet soup)
• reversal: U-turn
LIGHT & DARK (2)

- accusation & criticism: shade (throw shade)
- achievement, recognition & praise: luminary (n), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
- activity: alight (activity), light (lit up)
- amelioration & renewal: clear up (v), polish (v)
- amount: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light (shed light), opacity (n), opaque (adj)
- appearance & disappearance: fade (v), fade away, light (come to light), light (bring something to light), light (see the light)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: blaze (in a blaze of glory), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), glare (attention), highlight (v), light (shine a light), limelight (in the limelight), outshine (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), sunlight (concealment), supernova (attention)
- attenuation: shadow (devitalized), tarnish (v), tarnished
- attraction & repulsion: flame (attraction), moth (attraction)
- certainty & uncertainty: clear (crystal clear), clear (unambiguous), cloudy (certainty), murky (adj), open-and-shut (adj), shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.), twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: fade away (v)
- comprehension & lack of comprehension: clear (crystal clear), clear (perception), clear (unambiguous), illuminate (v), illuminating (adj), light bulb, murky (adj), opacity (n), opaque (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- computer: darknet
- concealment & lack of concealment: day (the light of day), light (shed light), shadow (concealment), shadowy, sunlight (concealment), transparency, transparent
- configuration: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
- consciousness & awareness: dark (in the dark), haze (perception), opaque (adj)
- corruption: shady (adj), tarnish (v), tarnished
- decline: dim (decline), fade (v), star (decline), twilight (in the twilight)
- direction: light (guiding light), lighthouse
- division & connection: daylight (division)
- evidence: glimmer (glimmer of hope, etc.), ray (ray of hope, etc.)
- failure, accident & impairment: tarnish (v), tarnished
- feeling, emotion & effect: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), day (dark day), dazzle (v), dim (feeling), gloom (n), gloomy (adj), illuminating (adj), scintillating (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shade (dark shadow, etc.), sunny
- flaws & lack of flaws: bright (bright side), side (dark side)
- growth & development: supernova (achievement)
- guilt: clear (clear conscience)
- idea: light bulb
- increase & decrease: burnish (v)
- oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), gloom (n), gloomy (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shade (dark shadow, etc.)
- perception, perspective & point of view: clear (perception), haze (perception), light (in light of), light (in a light), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dim (primacy), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), overshadow (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), twilight (in the twilight)
• proximity: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
• repetition: shadow (mirror)
• resiliency: bright (bright side)
• searching & discovery: light (come to light), light (bring something to light)
• situation: twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.)
• substance & lack of substance: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
• subterfuge: shady (adj)
• superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
• superlative: bright, brilliance (superlative), brilliant (superlative), coruscating (adj), glittering (adj), glowing (adj), light (shining light), light up (v), luminary (n), outshine (v), scintillating (adj), shining (superlative), sparkling (superlative), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)

LIGHTNING (2) (see also rain; storm; weather & climate; wind)
• appearance & disappearance: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• attraction & repulsion: lightning rod
• fate, fortune & chance: lightning (fate)
• feeling, emotion & effect: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
• occurrence: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• origin: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• speed: lightning

LINE (2) (see also boundary)
• behavior: line (out of line), line (over the line), line (cross the line), line (red line)
• configuration: straddle (configuration)
• division & connection: foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), line (division), line (categories), straddle (connect)
• fate, fortune & chance: line (tread a line, etc.), line (on the line)
• position, policy & negotiation: line (a hard line, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & nonconformity: line (government line, etc.)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: line (finish line), line (end of the line, etc.)
• unanimity & consensus: line (toe a line, etc.), line up (v), lockstep (in lockstep), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rank-and-file (adj)

LION (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• amount: lion's share
• courage & lack of courage: lion
• person: lion (courage)
• strength & weakness: lion (strength & weakness)

LOCATION (1) (see also place)
• earthquake: epicenter
• forest: woods (neck of the woods)
• house: home (home for the archive, etc.), live (location)
• map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.), pinpoint (locate), pinpoint (accuracy, etc.)
• mechanism: hub (center)
• nuclear energy: ground zero
• temperature: hotspot (place)
• verb: pinpoint (locate)
LOVE, COURTSHIP & MARRIAGE (2)

- acceptance & rejection: spurned
- allegiance, support & betrayal: bed (jump into bed with someone), infidelity (n)
- attraction & repulsion: court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), embrace (v), embraced, flirt (v), seduced, swoon (v), woo (v), wooed
- behavior: infidelity (n)
- character & personality: odd couple
- coercion & motivation: marriage (shotgun marriage)
- concealment & lack of concealment: infidelity (n)
- conflict: honeymoon
- division & connection: divorce (n), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married
- eagerness & reluctance: coy (adj), marriage (shotgun marriage), shy (adj)
- enthusiasm: fall (fall in love), infatuated (enthusiasm), romance (n)
- experience: coming (coming out), debutant (n), maiden (adj), virgin (n)
- fate, fortune & chance: flirt (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: crush (love), swoon (v)
- person: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), seduce (v), seduced, suitor (n), woo (v), wooed
- relationship: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), divorce (n), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married, odd couple
- season: summer
- subterfuge: infidelity (n)

LUNG (2)

- biodiversity: lung (atmosphere)

MAGIC (2)

- ability & lack of ability: wizard (person), wizardry
- affliction: cursed
- amelioration & renewal: dust (fairy dust, etc.), magic (magic bullet, etc.)
- appearance & reality: magical (versus reality)
- attraction & repulsion: charm (v), charm (n), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), charming (people), pied piper, spell (under a spell)
- character & personality: charming
- control & lack of control: hypnotize (v)
- cost & benefit: curse (n)
- creation & transformation: finger (snap one’s fingers)
- epithet: wizard (Wizard of Menlo Park, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: crystal ball, cursed, tea leaves
- feeling, emotion & effect: charm (v), charmed (charmed by something, etc.), entranced, magic (effect), magic (magical moment, etc.), magical (effect), mesmerizing, spell (under a spell), spell (cast a spell), spellbinding, spellbound
- fantasy & reality: make-believe (n), make-believe (adj)
- fate, fortune & chance: magic (trail magic, etc.)
- future: crystal ball, fortuneteller (person), soothsayer (person), tea leaves
- help & assistance: magic (trail magic, etc.)
- knowledge & intelligence: wizard (person), wizardry
- person: fortuneteller (person), soothsayer (person), wizard (person)
- proper name: Magic (Magic Kingdom, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: charmed (charmed life, etc.)
• subterfuge: sleight of hand
• worth & lack of worth: curse (n)

MANUFACTURING (2) (see also engine; mechanism; tools & technology)
• amelioration & renewal: recycle (v), salvage (v)
• characterization: cast (characterize), recast (v)
• content: mill (grist for the mill), mill (gossip / rumor mill)
• creation & transformation: byproduct, churn out (v), fabricate (v), fabricated, fabrication, forge (v), forged, grind out (v), machine (publicity machine, etc.), making (creation), mill (n), mold (v), reshape (v), shape (v), shaped, strike (strike a deal, etc.)
• destruction: unmaking (destruction)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: scrap (v), scrapped
• environment: crucible (n)
• functioning: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
• gossip: mill (gossip / rumor mill), mill (grist for the mill)
• operation: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
• place: Detroit (India’s Detroit, etc.)
• product: byproduct
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: mold (fit a mold)
• script: boilerplate (n)
• worth & lack of worth: run-of-the-mill

MAP (2)
• area: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
• certainty & uncertainty: terrain (known and unknown terrain), territory (known and unknown territory), uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
• consciousness & awareness: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
• constraint & lack of constraint: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)
• direction: navigate (v), plot (v), uncharted (adj)
• extent & scope: latitude (wide latitude, etc.)
• isolation & remoteness: no man's land (people)
• location: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.), pinpoint (locate), pinpoint (accuracy, etc.)
• place: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
• script: road map

MARK (2)
• acceptance & rejection: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• affliction: scar (v), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring
• characterization: brand (v), mark (black mark), stigmatize (v)
• configuration: dot (v), dotted (arrangement), speckled (configuration)
• effect: mark (effect)
• evidence: fingerprint, hallmark
• feeling, emotion & effect: bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), dent (n), mark (effect)
• flaws & lack of flaws: blemish (n), black eye, blot (n), mark (black mark), scar (blemish), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.), smear (n), smear (v), stain (n), stain (v), unblemished
• impression: engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, imprint, mark (effect), seared, stamp (impression), stamped
• measurement: benchmark (at a benchmark), benchmark
• oppression: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• representation: touchstone
• reputation: black eye, blot (n), mark (black mark), smear (v), smear (n), stain (v), stain (n)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: rubber stamp (n), stamp (stamp of approval)
• sensation: seared
• speech: smear (v), smear (n)

MATERIALS & SUBSTANCES (2) (see also steel)
• ability & lack of ability: brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), flexible (adj), flexible (character), inflexible (character), rigid (constraint), rigid (character), supple (adj)
• acceptance & rejection: attachment (n)
• accusation & criticism: vitriol (n)
• achievement, recognition & praise: golden (golden girl, boy)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: stick (stick to / by / with something)
• appearance & reality: lipstick (appearance), unvarnished (adj), veneer (appearance)
• attachment: adhere (adhere to something), attached (attributed), glued, stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stick (endurance), sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)
• bases: rock (support)
• behavior: brazen (adj)
• character & personality: flexible (character), inflexible (character), mercurial (adj), putty (n), rigid (character), smooth (character)
• commitment & determination: grit (political grit, etc.), stick (stick to / by / with something)
• condition & status: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other)
• configuration: marbled
• constraint & lack of constraint: elastic, flexible (adj), rigid (constraint), supple (adj)
• control & lack of control: putty (n), unglued
• corruption: contaminate (v), contaminated, contamination, poison (v), taint (v), tainted
• destruction: shatter (v), shattered, shattering
• division & connection: fractured (separated), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.)
• evidence: taint (n)
• extent & scope: stretch (extent)
• failure, accident & impairment: breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), breaking point (other), fracture (failure), meltdown (n), snap (v), split (n), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), unglued, shatter (v)
• feeling, emotion & effect: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, breaking point (at the breaking point), breaking point (to the breaking point), brittle (emotionally brittle, etc.), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), crack (v), eggshell (walking on eggshells), fragile (feelings), meltdown (n), noxious (adj), poisonous (adj), shattering, snap (v), stick (emotion), toxic (adj), unglued, vitriol (n)
• flaws & lack of flaws: coarse (adj), crack (law), crude (adj), flawed (adj), flawless (adj), flimsy (adj), jewel (n), lapidary (adj), polish (v), polished (adj), sag (v), solid (adj), sound (solid), sticky (a sticky situation, etc.), unpolished, weak (fragile)
• heart: heart (heart of stone, etc.), stone-hearted
• impression: plastered (impression)
• mind: minded (steely-minded), tough-minded, weak-minded (adj)
• mixture: amalgam (n)
• oppression: ironfisted
• resistance, opposition & defeat: bend (v)
• restraint & lack of restraint: brazen (adj)
• situation: sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)
• speech: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically, crude (adj), silver (speech), silver-tongued, tongued (silver-tongued), vitriol (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something)
• strength & weakness: cement (v), eggshell (n), flimsy (adj), fragile (weak), hardened (battle-hardened, etc.), oak (strength), rock (support), sag (v), solid (adj), sound (measure), steel (strength), teak (wood), weak (fragile)
• substance & lack of substance: concrete, flimsy (adj), hollow (adj), solid (adj), veneer (appearance)
• superlative: golden (golden girl, boy), golden (golden opportunity, etc.)
• survival, persistence & endurance: cement (v), grit (political grit, etc.), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stick (endurance)

**MEASUREMENT (1)**
• blood: pulse (n)
• doors & thresholds: threshold (below the threshold), threshold (measurement)
• mark: benchmark (at a benchmark), benchmark
• surveying: baseline
• temperature: thermometer (n)
• tools & technology: barometer (n), calibrate (adjust), gauge (n), thermometer (n), tweak (n), yardstick (n)
• verb: calibrate (adjust), sound (measure)
• water: sound (measure)

**MEAT (2) (see also cooking; food & drink; fruits & vegetables; taste)**
• experience: meat (fresh meat)
• failure, accident & impairment: butcher (v)
• involvement: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• oppression: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)
• product: meat (piece of meat)
• shape: T-bone (v), T-boned
• strength & weakness: beef up (v)
• substance & lack of substance: meat (substance), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• violence: butcher (n)
• worth & lack of worth: meat (piece of meat)

**MECHANISM (1)**
• death & life: life (mechanism, etc.)
• knowledge & intelligence: smart (technology)

**MECHANISM (2) (see also engine; manufacturing; tools & technology)**
• ability & lack of ability: brilliant (technology), dumb (technology), smart (technology)
• absorption & immersion: hoover (hoover up, etc.)
• accusation & criticism: wringer (through the wringer)
• action, inaction & delay: button (pause button)
• activity: gear (in full gear), gear (kick into gear, etc.), hum (hum along), hum (n), hyperdrive (into hyperdrive), neutral (in neutral), overdrive (in / into overdrive)
• affliction: put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: bus (allegiance), truck (control)
• amelioration & renewal: fix (v), lubricant, mend (on the mend), mend (v), put (put something back together), repair (v), repair (n), tinker (v), tune-up (n), unwind (v), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: break down (explain), sort out (analyze)
• avoidance & separation: steer (steer clear of something)
• bases: kingpin, linchpin, nuts and bolts
• branching system: hub (branching system)
• center & periphery: hub (center)
• character & personality: wound (tightly wound)
• complexity: part (moving parts)
• consciousness & awareness: wheel (asleep at the wheel)
• control & lack of control: brake (control), lever (levers of power, etc.), wheel (asleep at the wheel), wheel (hand on the wheel)
• creation & transformation: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
• curtailment: shut down (v)
• decline: grind (grind down)
• dependency: wheel (training wheels)
• destruction: break (destroy), break down (destroy)
• development: pivotal, point (tipping point), turning point
• difficulty, easiness & effort: gear up (v), grind (grind away, etc.), grind (daily grind, etc.), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), grind (grind down)
• directing: steer (v)
• division & connection: rupture (n)
• experience: speed (up to speed)
• extent & scope: full-on (adj)
• failure, accident & impairment: break down (functioning), broken (failure), fall apart (v), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), grind (grind down), grind (grind to a halt), gum up (v), rupture (n), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled, wheel (wheels are falling off, etc.), wrench (throw a wrench)
• fate, fortune & chance: wheel (wheels of fate)
• feeling, emotion & effect: breakdown (nervous breakdown, etc.), break down (feeling), broken (feeling), button (push a button), button (panic button), button (hot button), grinding (grinding poverty, etc.), heart (a broken heart, etc.), pump up (v), turned off, turned on, turn on (v), turn-off (disgust), turn-on, wind down (relax), wound (tightly wound)
• flaws & lack of flaws: broken (failure), misbehave (v), point (sticking / friction point)
• functioning: break down (functioning), broken (failure), comatose (adj), down (functioning), gum up (v), hum (hum along), machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery (n), misbehave (v), nuts and bolts, speed (up to speed), sputter (v), stall (v), stalled, wrench (throw a wrench)
• future: time machine
• government: apparatus (government)
• growth & development: full-on (adj)
• heart: heart (a broken heart, etc.), heartbeat (n), heartbreaking (adj), heartbroken (adj)
• help & assistance: wheel (training wheels)
• importance & significance: cog (n), kingpin, linchpin, pivotal
• inauguration: drop (product launch), drop (v), launch (v), roll out (v)
• increase & decrease: crank up (v), dial (dial down / back), gear up (v), pump up (v), ratchet up (v), turn up (increase)
• initiation: kick in (start), launching pad, springboard (n)
• knowledge & intelligence: dumb (technology), brilliant (technology), smart (technology)
• location: hub (center)
• obstacles & impedance: damper (n)
• operation: machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery, wheel (wheels of justice, etc.), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)
• oppression: put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
• past & present: time machine, wind back (v)
• place: hub (center)
• progress & lack of progress: stall (v), wheel (spin one’s wheels), wheel (hamster wheel)
• pursuit, capture & escape: hatch (escape hatch)
• readiness & preparedness: tune-up (n)
• resiliency: put (put something back together)
• reversal: backpedal (v), gear (switch gears), pivot (n), roll back (v)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: fit in (v)
• sex: machine (sex machine)
• shape: hub (center)
• social interaction: wheel (grease the wheels)
• speed: brake (control), speed (up to speed), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: button (pause button), gear (in full gear), gear (kick into gear, etc.), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), grind (grind away, etc.), grind on (v), grind (grind to a halt), kick in (start), pause (n), reboot (v), reset (n), reset (v), stall (v), stalled, treadmill (n), wheel (spin one’s wheels), wind down (v)
• strength & weakness: robot (n)
• taxonomy & classification: break down (divide)
• throwing, putting & planting: catapult (v), catapulted, launch (v), launching pad, thrust (v)
• time: time machine
• unanimity & consensus: bus (allegiance), truck (control)
• work & duty: grind (daily grind, etc.), treadmill (n)

MEMORIZATION (2)
• heart: heart (by heart)

MENTAL HEALTH (2) (see also addiction; health & medicine)
• activity: frenzied (adj), frenzy (other)
• behavior: amok (run amok), bedlam, berserk, craze, crazed, crazy (behavior), crazy (enthusiasm), demented, frenzied (adj), frenzy (other), nuts (crazy)
• character & personality: nut (person)
• condition & status: troubled
• constraint & lack of constrain: straitjacket (n)
• control & lack of control: amok (run amok), berserk, crazy (behavior)
• enthusiasm: craze (n), crazed, crazy (enthusiasm), mad (crazy), madness (enthusiasm), mania (n), obsessed
• environment: bedlam, snake pit, warehouse (neglect)
• fantasy & reality: delusion (under a delusion), delusion, demented, pipe dream, rabbit hole
• feeling, emotion & effect: emptiness (depression), empty (depression), possessed
• identity & nature: identity crisis
• speech: rave (v)

MESSAGE (1) (see also evidence; warning)
• allusion: Cassandra, jeremiad (bitter lament)
• Bible: gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), jeremiad (bitter lament), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message)
• Iliad & Odyssey: Cassandra
• Middle Ages: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
• military: call (call to arms), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, saber rattling
• money: sell (promote)
• movement: spin (message), spin (spin control)
• person: convert (person), crusader (role), guru (person), missionary (person), tout (person)
• plane: barnstorm (v)
• religion: apostle (n), choir (preach to the choir), convert (person), crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role), evangelical (adj), evangelist (person), golden rule, gospel (preach the gospel, etc.),
guru (person), high priest, jeremiad (bitter lament), mantra (message), missionary (person), preach, prophet (person), proselytize (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message)

• sound: call (call to arms), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbob, saber rattling, signal (other), whistle (dog whistle)
• speech: preach (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message), voice (voice of reason), voice (message)
• sword: saber rattling
• tools & technology: megaphone (n), message (send a message, etc.), signal (mixed signals), signal (other)
• verb: barnstorm (v), drum (beat / bang the drum), proselytize (v), sell (promote), tout (v)

MIDDLE AGES (2)
• campaign: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
• conflict: gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet), joust (v), jousting
• help & assistance: knight (knight in shining armor), white knight
• message: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
• proper name: Knight (Black Knights, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: armor (protection)
• pursuit, capture & escape: quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
• searching & discovery: quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail)

MIGRATION (1)
• epithet: Ellis Island (epithet), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.)
• island: Ellis Island (epithet)
• journeys & trips: nomad (person)
• person: Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), nomad (person)
• place: Ellis Island (epithet)

MILITARY (2) (see also explosion; fortification; knife; sword; weapon)
• accusation & criticism: ammunition, attack (under attack, etc.), blast (v), broadside (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire), fire (fire back), firing squad, flak (criticism), fusillade (n), salvo (n), snipe (v), sniping (n)
• achievement, recognition & praise: coup (achievement), salute (v)
• action, inaction & delay: stand down (v)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: desert (v), insurrection, rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rank-and-file (adj)
• amelioration & renewal: damage control
• amount: army, arsenal (amount), host (host of questions, etc.), legion (n)
• amount & effect: barrage (n), besiege (v), besieged, blitz, invade (v), invasion (n), onslaught (n), siege (under siege), siege (other)
• appeal: call (call to arms), cry (rallying cry), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v)
• appearance & disappearance: missing in action (MIA)
• assembling: muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v)
• campaign: blitz
• character & personality: strongman (person)
• coercion & motivation: draft (v)
• commitment & determination: draft (v), flag (plant one’s flag)
• campaign: blitz (n)
• computer: war (flame war)
• concealment & lack of concealment: hole (spider hole)
• conflict: attack (under attack, etc.), battle (v), battle (n), battleground, battle cry, ceasefire (n), combat (v), embattled, enemy (conflict), force (show of force), fight (v), fray (above the fray), fray (conflict), front (conflict), last-ditch (adj), line (battle lines, etc.), rebellion (n), scorched-earth, siege (under siege), skirmish, Stalingrad (epithet), truce (n), war (at war), war (conflict), warfare (n), zone (combat zone)

• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: AWOL, retreat (withdraw)

• control & lack of control: cannon (loose cannon), marching orders, no man’s land (war and violence)

• cost & benefit: Pyrrhic victory

• danger: bomb (danger), booby trap, landmine, minefield, powder keg, tripwire (danger)

• destruction: sabotage (v), sabotaged, scorched-earth, waste (lay waste)

• difficulty, easiness & effort: battle (uphill battle, etc.), last-ditch (adj)

• dismissal, removal & resignation: body count, coup (power), drummed out, guard (changing of the guard)

• division: camp (n)

• division & connection: drawbridge (protection), Maginot Line

• driving force: charge (lead the charge), front line (on the front line), front line, point man (person), trench (in the trenches), vanguard, vanguard (in the vanguard), vanguard (other)

• eagerness & reluctance: draft (v)

• education: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.), West Point (epithet)

• environment: no man’s land (war and violence), war zone, zone (combat zone)

• epithet: Lawrence (T.E.), Napoleon (of surgery, etc.), nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Stalingrad (epithet), West Point (epithet), Waterloo

• experience: front line (on the front line), story (war story), stripe (n), trench (in the trenches), veteran (n), veteran (adj)

• failure, accident & impairment: casualty (n), Waterloo

• fate, fortune & chance: last-ditch (adj)

• feeling, emotion & effect: retreat (withdraw)

• group, set & collection: arsenal (amount)

• help & assistance: armed, arsenal (amount), weapon (help)

• hierarchy: chain of command

• importance & significance: breakthrough (n), salient (important)

• increase & decrease: multiplier (force multiplier)

• initiation: tripwire (initiation)

• involvement: missing in action (MIA)

• judgment: firing squad, muster (pass muster)

• message: call (call to arms), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, saber rattling

• money: war chest

• person: cannon (loose cannon), foot soldier (duty), point man (person)

• place: foxhole, nest (mortar nest, etc.), hole (spider hole)

• possession: surrender (v)

• power: chieftain (n), coup (power)

• presence & absence: missing in action (MIA)

• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: guardian (protection)

• progress & lack of progress: breakthrough (n)

• proper name: Aegis Combat System, Predator (UAV), rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.)

• protection & lack of protection: aegis (n), armor (protection), bastion, breach (n), bulwark, castle (protection), citadel (n), drawbridge (protection), entrenched, fort, fortress, foxhole, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), guardian (protection), head (keep one’s head down), loophole (n), moat (n), rampart (protection), redoubt (n), shield (n), stronghold

• punishment & recrimination: prisoner (no prisoners)
• readiness & preparedness: ambush (v), ambushed, dry run, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: ceasefire (n), hatchet (bury the hatchet), truce (n)
• representation: standard-bearer
• resemblance: rampart (other)
• resiliency: soldier (soldier on)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: combat (v), counterattack (n), fight (v), flag (plant one’s flag), give in (v), give up (stop trying), insurrection, last-ditch (adj), Pyrrhic victory, rebel (person), rebel (adj), rebellion (n), revolt (v), siege (under siege), siege (other), stand (last stand, etc.), surrender (v), Waterloo
• responsibility: watch (on one’s watch)
• restraint & lack of restraint: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), over-the-top (adj)
• reversal: about face; retreat (reverse)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: rebel (person), rebel (adj)
• searching & discovery: scout (n), search (v)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: ceasefire (n), soldier (soldier on), stand down (v), truce (n)
• success & failure: conquer (v), Pyrrhic victory, Waterloo
• superlative: champion (n)
• survival, persistence & endurance: entrenched, soldier (soldier on)
• unanimity & consensus: lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), marching orders, rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rank-and-file (adj)
• warning: sentinel (n)
• work & duty: foot soldier (duty), soldier (soldier on)

MIND (1)
• access & lack of access: close-minded, mind (open mind), open-minded (adj), openness (n)
• breadth: narrow-minded (adj), narrowness (n)
• comprehension & incomprehension: mind (wrap / get one’s mind around something, etc.)
• container: close-minded (adj), mind (container), mind (open mind), open-minded (adj)
• direction: high-minded (adj)
• materials & substances: minded (steely-minded), tough-minded (adj), weak-minded (adj)
• platform: mind (platform)
• size: small-minded (adj)
• space: mind (area)

MINING (2)
• achievement, recognition & praise: golden (golden girl, boy)
• activity: bonanza (n), gold rush
• amount & effect: bonanza (n), gold rush
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), drill (drill down, etc.), layer (analysis)
• appearance & reality: fool’s gold
• behavior: gold-digging
• character & personality: gold digger
• cost & benefit: bonanza (n), gold rush
• epithet: gold (black gold, etc.), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.)
• evidence: canary (canary in the coal mine / cave)
• failure, accident & impairment: cave (cave in), undermine (v)
• identity & nature: melting pot (n)
• mixture: melting pot (n)
• person: gold digger, golden (golden girl, boy)
• resiliency: dig (dig out)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: cave (cave in)
• searching & discovery: dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dig (dig through), dig out, dig up, eureka, gold (strike gold), mine (search), mining (data, etc.), pay dirt, unearth (v), unearthed
• source: gold mine, mother lode, vein (source)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: vein (in that vein, etc.)
• success & failure: eureka, gold (strike gold), pan out (v), pay dirt
• superlative: gem (n), golden (golden girl, boy), golden (golden opportunity, etc.), jewel (n), lapidary (adj)
• survival, persistence & endurance: dig (dig out)
• worth & lack of worth: bonanza (n), fool's gold, gold (worth), gold (black gold, etc.), gold mine, gold rush, karat (24-karat), pan out (v), pay dirt

MIRROR (2)
• consciousness & awareness: mirror (n)
• past & present: mirror (in the rear-view mirror)
• repetition: mirror (v)

MIXTURE (1)
• alcohol: cocktail
• atmosphere: rainbow (mixture)
• bird: cocktail
• chemistry: chemistry
• cloth: tapestry (n), weave (mixture)
• container: melting pot (n)
• fire: melting pot (n)
• food & drink: bowl (salad bowl / mixture), brew (mixture), gumbo (mixture), soup (mixture), soup (alphabet soup), stew (mixture)
• letters & characters: soup (alphabet soup)
• materials & substances: amalgam (n)
• mining: melting pot (noun)
• sky: rainbow (mixture)
• temperature: melting pot (n)

MIXTURE (2)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: blend in (v)
• concealment & lack of concealment: blend in (v)
• disruption: scramble (disrupt)
• involvement: mix (in / into the mix), mixed up

MONEY (1)
• allusion: Great Gatsby, Midas (Midas touch)
• animal: nest egg
• bird: nest egg
• cat: fat cat
• epithet: Great Gatsby, Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
• history: gilded (Gilded Age)
• military: war chest
• place: Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
• purses & wallets: purse (money), purse strings, pocket (deep pockets), pocketbook, checkbook, wallet
• sensation: tight (money)
• sign, signal, symbol: treasure (money)
MONEY (2)
• acceptance & rejection: buy (buy into something), buy (other), buy-in
• achievement, recognition & praise: tribute (pay tribute)
• activity: bonanza (n), gold rush
• allegiance, support & betrayal: buy (buy into something), buy-in, sell out (v)
• amount: rich (plentiful), tight (money), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount)
• amount & effect: bonanza (n), gold rush
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: sell (promote)
• certainty & uncertainty: deal (done deal)
• character & personality: mercenary
• commitment & determination: invest (v), investment (n), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
• competition: marketplace (n)
• constraint & lack of constraint: budget (attention budget, etc.)
• cost & benefit: afford (v), bonanza (n), bottom line, capital (money), cash in (v), cost (v), cost (at a cost), cost (at all costs), costly (adj), dividend (pay dividends), expense (at the expense), gold rush, pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off, payoff, price (n), price tag, prize (n), prized, profit (v), reward (v), reward (n), rewarding, spend (energy, etc.), toll (n), toll (take a toll, etc.), worth
• creation & transformation: coin (v), minted
• epithet: Great Gatsby, Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• group, set & collection: treasure trove (and trove), treasure house
• help & assistance: lend (lend a hand, etc.)
• hyperbole: sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
• importance & significance: million-dollar
• message: sell (promote)
• obligation: debt (in somebody’s debt), debt (obligation), owe, pay (obligation), repay (v), tribute (pay tribute)
• position, policy & negotiation: haggle (v), haggling, horse-trading
• possession: own (v), own (make something one’s own), ownership (n), trade (v)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: legacy (obsolescence), own (v)
• protection & lack of protection: insurance
• relationship: coin (side of a coin), coin (double-sided coin)
• reputation: legacy (reputation)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: sell out (v)
• revenge: pay (revenge), payback (n), score (settle a score, etc.)
• searching & discovery: treasure trove (and trove)
• success & failure: jackpot (hit the jackpot)
• superlative: rich (superlative)
• time: spare (a minute to spare, etc.), spend (time), time (buy time, etc.), time (steal time, etc.)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: spare (a minute to spare, etc.)
• transmission: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: prize (n), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
• worth & lack of worth: bankrupt (adj), bonanza (n), currency (worth), gold rush, pay off (v), payoff, prized, profit (v), rich (rich land, etc.), stock (worth), treasure (worth), treasured (worth), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount)

MOON (2) (see also astronomy; star; sun)
• appearance: moonscape
• decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), wane (on the wane), wane (v)
• development: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 874 of 982
• increase & decrease: wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• resemblance: moonscape
• superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)

**MOUNTAINS & HILLS (2) (see also earthquake; ground, terrain & land; landslide; volcano)**
• achievement, recognition & praise: peak (at the peak), summit (at the summit)
• amount: mountain (amount)
• behavior: edge (over the edge)
• danger: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• decline: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), downhill, hill (over the hill)
• destruction: abyss (n), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (push something over the edge), precipice (at the precipice)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: hill (difficulty), mountain (difficulty), Mount Everest (and Everest), uphill (difficult)
• epithet: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• fate, fortune & chance: cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice), slope (on a slippery slope), slope (slippery slope)
• growth & development: peak (at the peak)
• importance & significance: paramount (adj)
• increase & decrease: peak (at the peak), peak (other), plateau (n), plateau (v)
• presence & absence: foothold (n)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: hill (over the hill), peak (at the peak), peak (other)
• progress & lack of progress: level off (v), peak (other), plateau (n), valley (n)
• proper name: valley (Silicon Valley, etc.)
• proximity: edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice)
• shape: peak (other), plateau (n), valley
• size: mountainous (adj), Mount Everest (and Everest), Olympian (adj)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: slope (slippery slope)
• superlative: Mount Everest (and Everest), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus)
• survival, persistence & endurance: foothold (n)

**MOUTH (2)**
• creation & transformation: spit out (v)
• eagerness & reluctance: chops (lick one’s chops), salivate (v)
• resemblance: mouth (entrance), spit (spit down), spit (v)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: mouth (speech), mouthpiece (n)
• speech: lip (speech), lip service (pay lip service, etc.), mouth (speech), mouthpiece (n), mouthy (adj), muzzle (v)

**MOVEMENT (1) (see also leaking)**
• animal: duck (v), fishtail (v), quail (movement), snake (a trail can snake)
• atmosphere: drift (move)
• ball: bounce (v), ping-pong (v), ping-pong (n), roll (move), roll in (v), rolling (moving)
• bird: duck (v), quail (movement)
• cloth: weave (move)
• fan: fan out (v)
• fish: fishtail (v)
• flood: deluge (n), flood (move)
• force: barrel (v), churn (move)
• river: flood (move), flow (move), flow (n), river (amount and effect)
• sea: ebb (movement), tide (other), wave (amount and effect)
• shape: corkscrew (v), fan (fan out)
• snake: snake (a trail can snake)
• snow & ice: freeze (position of body), frozen (movement)
• tide: ebb (movement), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (other)
• verb: barrel (v), bounce (v), churn (move), corkscrew (v), dance (resemblance), dart (dart about), drift (move), duck (v), fish trace (v), flood (move), flow (move), jump (movement), ping pong (v), pour (in, into, out, etc.), roll (move), roll in (v), seep (v), snake (a trail can snake), spill (amount and effect), stream (move), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), trickle (trickle in / out), wash in (v), weave (move)
• walking, running & jumping: dance (resemblance), jump (move), jump (movement)
• water: cascade (v), deluge (n), flood (move), flow (move), flow (n), gush (n), pour (in, into, out, etc.), river (amount and effect), seep (v), spill (v), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), trickle (trickle in / out), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)
• wave: swamp (v), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)
• weapon: dart (dart about)
• wind: drift (move)

**MOVEMENT (2) (see also journeys & trips)**

• action, inaction & delay: can (kick the can down the road), feet (drag one’s feet), hand (sit on one’s hands), inertia (n), move (take action), road (push something down the road), sit (sit on one’s hands), slow (adj), stand by (v), step in (v)
• activity: hop (v), swirl (v)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: go (go along)
• attainment: coast (attain), sail (sail to victory, etc.), waltz (attain)
• avoidance & separation: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v)
• attempt: go (go for something)
• bases: orbit (n), revolve (revolve around something)
• behavior: go (behavior), wall (ricochet off the wall)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: circle back (v), conga line, day (day has arrived, etc.), footstep (retrace one’s footsteps), go (come and go), linger (v), lingering, loiter (v), parade (n), remain (v), return (v), return (n), revolving door
• commitment & determination: budge (v), go (go for something), waver (v), unwavering (adj)
• comprehension & incomprehension: follow (argument)
• condition & status: dead (dead in the water), go (progress), limp (v), ongoing (investigation, etc.)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bypass (v), end run (n), go (not go there), go around (v), road (go down that road, etc.), sidestep (v)
• control & lack of control: brake (control), spin (out of control); spiral (out of control)
• creation & transformation: spin-off (n)
• death & life: passing (death)
• decline: slide (n), slide (v), stagnant (adj), stagnate (v), tailspin (in a tailspin)
• development: come (something can come along), go (development), lead (one thing leads to another), progress (v), roller coaster (development), stand (stand still / development)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: coast (attain), shortcut (n)
• direction: follow (a path, route, road, etc.), footstep (in the footsteps), go (direction), head (into the future), lead (one thing leads to another), meander (v), move (direction)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: shake (remove)
• disruption: stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
• eagerness & reluctance: go (not go there), jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), road (go down that road, etc.), spring (spring into action, etc.)
• experience: go (go through something), ride (rough ride, etc.), speed (up to speed)
• failure, accident & impairment: falter (v), go (go wrong), momentum (lose momentum), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), turn (wrong turn)
• feeling, emotion & effect: follow (follow a feeling or emotion), slide (v)
• fictive motion: run (a road can run, etc.)
• flaws & lack of flaws: roll (on a roll)
• force: momentum (n), traction (gain / build / get traction)
• functioning: speed (up to speed)
• future: ahead (future), approach (v), approaching, come (future), come (to come), come (see something coming), come (for a time to come), come up on, coming (in the coming months, etc.), day (day has arrived, etc.), forward (future), go (where are we going, etc.), head (into the future), headed, run (run into next week, etc.), see (see something coming), time (time has passed)
• growth & development: lag (progress)
• importance & significance: breakthrough (n)
• increase & decrease: accelerate (v), creep (mission creep, etc.), escalate (v), momentum (n), roller coaster (development), yo-yo (up and down)
• initiation: head start, swirl (v)
• message: spin (message), spin control
• obstacles & impedance: bypass (v), drag (drag on the economy, etc.), end run (n), go around (v), impasse (n), sidestep (v)
• past & present: back (go back in time, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), back up (v), backwards (past), bygone (adj), circle back (v), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (time), time warp, walk (walk somebody back), year (year has come and gone)
• position, policy & negotiation: budge (v), shift (change)
• predation: pounce (v)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: go (come and go), pass by (progress), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin), time (time has passed)
• product: spin-off (n)
• progress & lack of progress: advance (v), ahead (get ahead, etc.), backwards (progress), beginning (progress), breakthrough (n), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), circle (go in circles), come (come a long way), forward (move forward, etc.), go (progress), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), inertia (n), keep up (progress), lag (progress), limp (v), march (march ahead, etc.), march (n), momentum (n), moored, move (progress), move (move up), movement (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), progress (v), roll (v), roll (on a roll), rut (in a rut), setback (progress), sidetracked, stand (stand still / progress), standstill (n), there (destination), wheel (spin one’s wheels), wheel (hamster wheel), wind (wind its way)
• resiliency: go on (v), move on (resiliency)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: budge (v), come out (against something), move (move an inch, etc.)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: move on (resiliency)
• reversal: backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal)
• route: go (a road can go, etc.)
• social interaction: go (go along)
• speed: accelerate (v), brake (control), lethargic (adj), plod (v), slow (adj), sluggish (adj), speed (up to speed)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: accelerate (v), ahead (go ahead, etc.), beginning (progress), creep (mission creep, etc.), dead (dead in the water), escalate (v), falter (v), follow-through (investigation, etc.), go on (v), halt (a screeching halt), head start, inertia (n), momentum (n), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject,
etc.), ongoing (investigation, etc.), roll (on a roll), roll (v), rolling (movement), set out / off (v), traction (gain / build / get traction), track (stop something in its tracks), wheel (spin one’s wheels)

- strategy: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
- subterfuge: bypass, end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
- survival, persistence & endurance: go (go through something), go on (v), remain (v)
- time: crawl (speed), drag (drag on / out / through), fly (time flies), go (time), race (time), stand (stand still / time), time (time has passed)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: head start, lethargic (adj), slow (adj)
- unanimity & consensus: go (go along)

MUSIC (2)
- ability & lack of ability: chops (expertise)
- achievement, recognition & praise: praise (sing someone’s praises), unsung (praise)
- amount & effect: chorus (n), crescendo (n)
- amelioration & renewal: fine-tune (v), tune-up (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: fanfare (attention)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: waltz in (v)
- commitment & determination: stop (pull out all the stops)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: stop (pull out all the stops), waltz (attain)
- directing: orchestrate (v), orchestrated
- experience: chops (expertise)
- flaws & lack of flaws: note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
- identity & nature: anthem
- knowledge & intelligence: chops (expertise)
- readiness & preparedness: tune-up (noun)
- resemblance: opera, symphony (n)
- reversal: tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune)
- sound: opera, symphony
- starting, going, continuing & ending: waltz (last waltz)
- unanimity & consensus: bandwagon (n), harmony (in harmony), tune (in tune, etc.), tune (out of tune)

NAIL (2)
- pursuit, capture & escape: nail (nail somebody)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: nail down (settle)
- success & failure: nail (nail something), nail down (gain)

NATIVE AMERICANS (2)
- coercion & motivation: hatchet man (person)
- conflict: warpath (on the warpath), wagon (circle the wagons)
- feeling, emotion & effect: trail (trail of tears)
- hierarchy: totem pole
- protection & lack of protection: wagon (circle the wagons)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- success & failure: scalp (n)

NECK (2)
- affliction: neck (pain in the neck)
- death & life: neck (save one’s neck)
- fate, fortune & chance: neck (save one’s neck), neck (fate)
- involvement: neck (up to one’s neck)
- obstacle & impedance: bottleneck
• oppression: neck (oppression)
• shape: neck (area)
• survival, persistence & endurance: neck (save one’s neck)

**NOSE (2)**
• ability & lack of ability: nose (ability)
• admiration & contempt: nose (look down one’s nose)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: nose (attention)
• character & personality: hard-nosed (adjective)
• consciousness & awareness: nose (under somebody’s nose)
• insult: nose (thumb one’s nose)
• orientation: nose (orientation)
• proper name: Nose (Devil’s Nose, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: nose (thumb one’s nose)
• shape: nose (shape)

**NUCLEAR ENERGY (2)**
• affliction: fallout (effect)
• alternatives & choices: option (nuclear option)
• avoidance & separation: radioactive (adj)
• coercion & motivation: option (nuclear option)
• creation & transformation: breeder reactor (n)
• destruction: Chernobyl, meltdown (n)
• effect: fallout (effect)
• failure, accident & impairment: Chernobyl, meltdown (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: fallout (effect)
• location: ground zero

**NUMBER (2)**
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: add up (v), arithmetic, calculus
• commitment & determination: percent (one hundred and ten percent)
• division & connection: common denominator
• fate, fortune & chance: number (n), numbered
• hierarchy: common denominator
• increase & decrease: multiplier (force multiplier)
• script: formula
• strategy: arithmetic, calculus, game (numbers game)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: countdown (n)

**OBJECT (2)**
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: it (it girl, etc.), thing (fad, etc.), thing (the next big thing)
• enthusiasm: thing (one’s thing)
• evidence: calling card
• searching & discovery: search (n)

**OBLIGATION (1)**
• money: debt (in somebody’s debt), debt (obligation), owe, pay (obligation), repay (v), tribute (pay tribute)
• verb: owe (v), pay (obligation), repay (v)

**OBSTACLES & IMPEDANCE (1)**
• arm: hold back (obstacle)
• atmosphere: headwind (n)
• boat: headwind (n), shoal (n)
• bottle: bottleneck
• breathing: choked, chokepoint
• burden: drag (drag on the economy, etc.)
• dam: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• direction: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), hump (n)
• flood: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• football: end run (n)
• gate: gate (society)
• government: red tape
• ground, terrain & land: barrier, bogged down, ditch (n), mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), quicksand (in / into the quicksand), rut (in a rut), stuck (adj), thicket (n)
• hand: holdup (n)
• infrastructure: ceiling (glass ceiling), ceiling (debt ceiling, etc.), pothole (n)
• journeys & trips: bump (bump in the road, etc.), gridlocked, impasse (n), path (in the path), pothole (n), roadblock, way (in the way), way (out of the way / obstacles)
• mechanism: damper (n)
• movement: bypass (v), drag (drag on the economy, etc.), end run (n), go around (v), impasse (n), sidestep (v)
• neck: bottleneck
• physics: drag (drag on the economy, etc.), friction (impedance), frictionless
• prep, adv, adj, particle: against (up against)
• river: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), logjam, snag (n)
• rope: knot (n), snarl (v)
• sea: shoal (n)
• shape: bottleneck, hump (n)
• sound: chatter (data), din (n), noise (data), static (n)
• sports & games: end run (n), hoop (jump through hoops), hurdle (n)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand in the way)
• verb: bypass (v), go around (v), hold back (obstacle), hoop (jump through hoops), jump (lines), mud (sink in the mud), run (run into something), sidestep (v), snarl (v), stand (stand in the way), stonewall (v), stumble (v), way (get out of the way)
• walking, running & jumping: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), hurdle (n), jump (lines), run (run into something), sidestep (v), stumble (v), stumble (n), stumbling block, way (get out of the way)
• wall: stonewall (v), wall (obstacle)
• water: clog (n), clogged, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• wind: headwind (n)

**OCCURRENCE (1) (see also appearance & disappearance; presence & absence; searching & discovery)**

• air: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• atmosphere: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• color: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• direction: fall (on Friday, etc.), fall (night fell, etc.), fall (silence fell, etc.)
• eye: see (a date can see, etc.)
• fist: strike (tragedy, etc.)
• lightning: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• pursuit, capture & escape: break out (v)
• sky: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• verb: see (a date can see, etc.), strike (tragedy, etc.)
OPERATION (1) (see also functioning)

- journeys & trips: course (course of justice, etc.)
- manufacturing: machine (publicity machine, etc.)
- mechanism: machine (publicity machine, etc.), machinery, wheel (wheels of justice, etc.), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)
- train: train (operation)

OPPORTUNITIES & POSSIBILITIES (1) (see also access & lack of access; portal)

- doors & thresholds: door (opportunity), door (open the door, etc.), door (hold the door open, etc.), door (leave the door open), door (get one’s foot in the door), door (close a door, etc.)

OPPRESSION (1) (see also revenge; violence) (see also driving force; force; power; superiority & inferiority)

- allusion: Big Brother, Cinderella, draconian (adj), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), inquisition (n), Lord of the Flies, McCarthy, McCarthyite, Orwellian (adj), pitchfork (oppression), procrustean (adj), reign of terror / fear, etc., witch-hunt
- animal: back (off one’s back), goad (v), kangaroo court, lighten (v), trample (v), yoke (under the yoke), yoke (from the yoke), yoke (other)
- atmosphere: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), cloud (cast a cloud)
- back: back (off one’s back)
- breathing: smother (oppress), stifling (adj), strangle (v), strangled, stranglehold, strangulation, suffocate (v), suffocated, suffocating
- burden: bear (a weight, etc.), burden (v), burdened (buried in debt, etc.), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), straw (the last straw), weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
- burial: buried (buried in debt, etc.), pall (cast a pall)
- chain: chain (oppression)
- cloth: pall (cast a pall)
- clothing & accessories: boot (oppression), wringer (through the wringer)
- cloud: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.)
- color: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
- creature: pitchfork (oppression), witch hunt
- direction: fall (weight)
- epithet: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.)
- fist: fist (with an iron fist), ironfisted
- foot: trample (v)
- ground, terrain & land: buried (buried in debt, etc.)
- hand: grip (control), hand (iron hand, etc.), ham-handed, heavy-handed
- heel: heel (under the heel)
- history: Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.), McCarthy, McCarthyite, reign of terror / fear, etc., tyrant, witch-hunt
- horse: saddle (oppress), saddled
- journeys & trips: freighted
- justice: kangaroo court, police (thought police, etc.), trial (show trial), witch-hunt
- light & dark: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), dark (dark mood, etc.), darken (v), gloom (n), gloomy (adj), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
- mark: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
- materials & substances: ironfisted
- meat: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)
• mechanism: put (put somebody through something), wringer (through the wringer)
• neck: neck (oppression)
• person: bully (person), butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), police (thought police, etc.)
• pressure: clampdown (n), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeeze (pressure), squeezed (oppressed), vise (pressure), wringer (through the wringer)
• royalty: lord over (v), reign of terror / fear, etc.
• shadow: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under a shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
• shoulder: shoulder (oppression)
• society: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• speech: cudgel (n), goad (v)
• temperature: chill (oppression)
• throat: throat (ram something down the throat)
• thumb: thumb (under the thumb)
• train: railroad (v)
• verb: bear (burden), blackball (v), blacklist (v), bully (v), burden (v), crack down (v), darken (v), get out (get out from under), goad (v), lord over (v), pall (cast a pall), railroad (v), saddle (oppress), smother (oppress), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), strangle (v), suffocate (v), throat (ram something down the throat), weigh (oppress), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
• violence: crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), goad (v), inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.), reign of terror / fear, etc., waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n), witch-hunt
• weapon: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (under the gun)
• weight: baggage, bear (a weight, etc.), burden (n), burden (v), fall (weight), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), heavy-handed, saddle (oppress), saddled, shoulder (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weighed down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
• whip: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)

ORIENTATION (1)
• animal: nose (orientation), tail (orientation)
• direction: floor (pelvic floor, etc.), nose (orientation), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.), tail (orientation), upstage (v), upstream (swim upstream)
• house: floor (pelvic floor, etc.), roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
• nose: nose (orientation)
• river: downstream, upstream (swim upstream)
• roof: roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flesh (inside), skin (outside)
• stomach: belly (orientation), underbelly, underside (n)
• theater: upstage (v)
• verb: upstage (v)

ORIENTATION (2)
• amelioration & renewal: right (right a wrong, etc.)
• appearance & reality: underbelly, underside (n)
• concealment & lack of concealment: underbelly, underside (n)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: upstream (swim upstream)
• disruption: upend (v), head (turn something on its head), upside down
• equilibrium & stability: upend (v), upside down
• flaws & lack of flaws: downside, underbelly, underside (n), upside (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: end (the end)
ORIGIN (1) (see also source)
- air: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- atmosphere: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- birth: birthplace, cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- color: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- epithet: birthplace, cradle (cradle of Islam, etc.)
- family: background
- fire: ashes (from the ashes), Phoenix (myth)
- house: home (home of golf, etc.), house (origin)
- lightning: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- plant: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
- royalty: house (origin)
- sky: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
- tree: root (origin), root (root of the problem, etc.)
- verb: come (come from)

PARTY (2)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: party (late to the party)

PAST & PRESENT (1) (see also future)
- animal: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur, dodo, fossil
- antiques: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
- bridge: bridge (water under the bridge)
- clock: clock (turn back the clock), wind back (v)
- container: past (in the past), time capsule
- day: day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (of one's day), day (these days), day (those days), day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (day has arrived, etc.), day (modern day), old (of old), today (n), yesterday (n)
- direction: back (go back in time, etc.), backwards (past), behind (in the past), bygone (adj), circle back (v), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (time), gone (those days are gone, etc.), hindsight (with hindsight), look (look back), throwback (n), walk (walk somebody back), yesteryear
- eye: look (look back)
- hunting: catch up (pursuit)
- infrastructure: memory land (down memory lane)
- journeys & trips: back (go back in time, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), back up (v), circle back (v), road (down a road before), walk (walk somebody back)
- mechanism: time machine, wind back (v)
- mirror: mirror (in the rear-view mirror)
- movement: back (go back in time, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), back up (v), backwards (past), circle back (v), day (day has arrived, etc.), go (time), time warp, walk (walk somebody back), year (year has come and gone)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: back (go back in time, etc.)
- school & education: new school, old school
- verb: back (go back in time, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), back up (v), circle back (v), clock (turn back the clock), go (time), look (look back), walk (walk somebody back)
- walking, running & jumping: walk (walk somebody back)
- water: bridge (water under the bridge)

PENDULUM (2)
- activity: swing (in full swing)
configuration: suspended
development: pendulum (reversal), swing (development)
division & connection: suspended
extent & scope: sweeping, swing (in full swing)
primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: pendulum (reversal)
reversal: pendulum (reversal), swing (swing around)
starting, going, continuing & ending: swing (in full swing)

PERCEPTION, PERSPECTIVE & POINT OF VIEW (1)
allusion: Rashomon (point of view), Rorschach (test)
animal: bird’s-eye (bird’s-eye view)
bird: bird’s eye (bird’s-eye view)
clothing & accessories: shoe (in somebody’s shoes)
direction: forward-looking
eye: blinded, blinder (n), blind spot, blinkered (adj), eye (perception), farsighted, myopia (n), myopic (adj), nearsighted, optics (n), see (perceive), shortsighted, view (perspective), view (v), view (in view), view (in somebody’s view), view (opinion), viewed, vision (n), visionary (adj), worm’s-eye (adj)
fish: fisheye
film: Rashomon (point of view)
geometry: angle (from an angle)
ground, terrain & land: grassroots, ground (on the ground), level (from the ground level), worm’s-eye (adj)
horse: blinker (n), blinkered (adj)
infrastructure: tunnel vision
insect: worm’s eye (adj)
light & dark: clear (perception), haze (perception), light (in light of), light (in a light), murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adjective), unclear (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
picture: background (fade into the background), color (v), colored, foreground (n), foreground (v), picture (in the big picture), Rorschach (test)
position: bird’s-eye (bird’s-eye view), fisheye, grassroots, perspective (from a perspective), perspective (in perspective), perspective (into perspective), perspective (other), point of view (from somebody’s point of view), point of view (other), step (step back / perspective), vantage point (from a vantage point), view (perspective), worm’s-eye (adj), zoom (zoom out)
sound: ring (ring false, etc.), ring (ring of truth, etc.), sound (perception)
speech: greet (v), greeted
tools & technology: lens (through a lens), lens (other), microscope (through a microscope), optics (n), prism (through the prism), prism (other)
verb: background (fade into the background), color (v), greet (v), ring (ring false, etc.), see (perceive), step (step back / perspective), view (v), waters (muddy the waters), zoom (zoom out)
water: murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)

PERFORMANCE (1) (see also appearance & reality; substance & lack of substance; subterfuge)
animal: dog-and-pony show (n)
circus: circus (media circus, etc.)
person: ringmaster (person)
sports & games: charade (n), game (project, scheme, plan)
standing, sitting & lying: posture (performance), posturing
theater: act (performance), act (insincere show), dog-and-pony show (n), drama (drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), gallery (play to the gallery), grandstanding (n), play (v), repertoire (n), role (act), set piece
(n), show (performance), show business (performance), stage (v), staged (directed), stage-manage (v), theater (performance), theatrics (n), trial (show trial)

- verb: play (v), stage (v), stage-manage (v)

PERSON (1)

- animal: gadfly (person), greenhorn (person), leech (person), lion (courage), snake (character)
- astronomy: star (person)
- baby: babysitter (role), crybaby (person)
- boat: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- books & reading: author (person)
- color: greenhorn (person)
- crime: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- death & life: survivor (person)
- direction: guide (person)
- family: brother (brother in arms, etc.), cousin (person), father (father of India, etc.), favorite son, godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), mother (mother ship, etc.), orphan (n), sister (relationship), stepchild (weakness)
- fire: firebrand (person)
- food & drink: cannibal (other), glutton (person)
- hand: handmaiden (help)
- head: hothead (person)
- insect: gadfly (person)
- island: castaway (person)
- journeys & trips: guide (person), Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), nomad (person), pioneer (person), trailblazer (person)
- lion: lion (courage)
- love, courtship & marriage: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.)
- magic: fortuneteller (person), soothsayer (person), wizard (person)
- military: cannon (loose cannon), foot soldier (duty), point man (person)
- mining: gold digger, golden (golden girl, boy)
- religion: acolyte (person), choirboy (behavior), convert (person), crusader (role), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), guru (person), heretic (person), iconoclast (person), martyr (person), missionary (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), soothsayer (person)
- royalty: handmaiden (help), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (role), whipping boy (person)
- school & education: bully (person), cheerleader (person)
- sea: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
- snake: snake (character)
- snow & ice: snowflake (person)
- society: castaway (person), hermit (person), leper (person), outcast (person), pariah (person), untouchable (person)
- star: star (person)
- temperature: firebrand (person), hothead (person)
- weapon: cannon (loose cannon)
- whip: whipping boy (person)

PERSON (2)

- acceptance & rejection: hermit (person), leper (person), outcast (person), pariah (n)
- achievement, recognition & praise: golden (golden girl, boy), star (person)
- affliction: gadfly (person), leech (person)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: rat (snitch)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: Barnum, cheerleader (person), name-check (v), showman (person), tout (person)
• avoidance & separation: hermit (person)
• behavior: cannon (loose cannon), child (spoiled child), choirboy (behavior), hothead, hotshot (n), straight arrow (person)
• campaign: crusader (role)
• character & personality: cannon (loose cannon), dandelion (character), firebrand (person), gadfly (person), gold digger, hand wringer (n), hot dog (person), hothead (n), hotshot (n), killjoy (person), leech (person), live wire (person), mercenary (person), nut (person), orchid (character), snake (character), snowflake (person), straight arrow (person), strongman (person), teacup (person), whiner (person)
• clothing & accessories: boot (soldier)
• coercion & motivation: bully (person), hatchet man (n)
• conflict: fighter (street fighter), gladiator (n), warrior (n)
• consumption: glutton (person)
• control & lack of control: cannon (loose cannon), chaperon (person), hothead (n), hotheaded (adj), police (thought police, etc.)
• courage & lack of courage: lion (courage)
• creation & transformation: author (person)
• dependency: babysitter (role), nanny (person), slave (slave to fashion, etc.)
• destruction: cannibal (the Cannibal, etc.), vandal (n), wreck (person)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: hand (all hands on deck)
• directing: ringmaster (person), steward (role)
• direction: guide (person)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: outcast (person)
• driving force: pioneer (person), point man (person)
• enthusiasm: acolyte (person), addict (chess addict, etc.), bookworm, cheerleader (person), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), glutton (person), hound (autograph hound, etc.), junkie (person), missionary (person), rat (lab rat, etc.)
• experience: adult (person), chaperon (person), greenhorn (person), grownup (person), stranger (no stranger)
• failure, accident & impairment: wreck (person)
• fantasy & reality: Kafkaesque, quixotic (adj), rabbit hole, Walter Mitty
• feeling, emotion & effect: firebrand (person), hothead (n), killjoy (person)
• future: fortuneteller (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), soothsayer (person)
• group, set & collection: tribe (group)
• help & assistance: caretaker (role), handmaiden (help), knight (knight in shining armor), mother (den mother, etc.), servant (n), sparring partner (role), steward (role), white knight
• identity & nature: child (product)
• importance & significance: pioneer (person), trailblazer (person)
• isolation & remoteness: castaway (person), hermit (person)
• journeys & trips: pioneer (person)
• judgment: judge (role)
• knowledge & intelligence: guru (person), savant (n), scientist (rocket scientist)
• message: convert (person), crusader (role), guru (person), missionary (person), tout (person)
• migration: Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), nomad (person)
• oppression: bully (person), butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.), police (thought police, etc.)
• performance: ringmaster (person)
• person: survivor (person)
• position, policy & negotiation: middle-of-the-roader
• power: chieftain (n), czar (n), insider (person), mogul (n), outsider (person), overlord (person)
• protection & lack of protection: guardian (protection)
• punishment & recrimination: whipping boy (person)
• relationship: companion, cousin (person), stepchild (weakness)
• representation: ambassador (role), standard-bearer
• resiliency: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: martyr (person), rebel (person)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: heretic (person), iconoclast (person), maverick (person), rebel (person)
• searching & discovery: scout (n), talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
• size: dwarf (size), pygmy (size)
• social interaction: hermit (person)
• society: castaway (person), caste, hermit (person), insider (person), leper (person), mob (society), outcast (person), outsider (person), pariah (n), untouchable (person)
• speech: loudmouth (person)
• strength & weakness: dandelion (character), fighter (street fighter), lion (strength and weakness), orchid (character), stepchild (weakness), snowflake (person), teacup (person)
• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: glutton (person)
• superlative: golden (golden girl, boy), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role), star (person), star (achievement)
• survival, persistence & endurance: hand (all hands on deck), survivor (person)
• taking & removing: buccaneer (person)
• warning: sentinel (n), whistleblower (n)
• work & duty: foot soldier (duty), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck), servant (n), slave (modern-day slave, etc.)
• worth & lack of worth: stepchild (weakness)

PHYSICS (2)
• conflict: friction (conflict)
• development: trajectory (n)
• obstacles & impedance: drag (drag on the economy, etc.), friction (impedance), frictionless

PICTURE (2) (see also analysis, interpretation & explanation; context)
• achievement, recognition & praise: masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: dot (connect the dots), mosaic (n), picture (in the big picture), picture (big picture), picture (view)
• appearance & disappearance: background (fade into the background), foreground (n), foreground (v)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: background (fade into the background), foreground (n), foreground (v), photobomb (v)
• certainty & uncertainty: sketchy (adj)
• characterization: cameo (n), paint (characterize), picture (view), portrait, profile, snapshot
• context: picture (in the big picture)
• creation & transformation: masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
• evidence: illustration
• involvement: frame (in the frame / involvement), picture (out of the picture), picture (in the picture)
• perception, perspective & point of view: background (fade into the background), color (v), colored, foreground (n), foreground (v), picture (in the big picture), Rorschach (test)
• presence & absence: picture (out of the picture)
• representation: poster (poster child, etc.)
• resemblance: paint (resemblance)
• superlative: masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
### PILE (2)
- accusation & criticism: pile-on (n)
- amount: pile (pile of money, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: dump (v), dumped
- increase & decrease: mount (v), mounting, pile on (increase), pile up (v)
- throwing, putting & planting: heap (v)
- unanimity & consensus: pile-on (noun), pile on (consensus)

### PLACE (1) (see also location)
- animal: foxhole, hole (spider hole), nest (mortar nest, etc.), nest (empty nest)
- bird: nest (mortar nest, etc.), nest (empty nest)
- bodily process: bowel (n)
- burial: grave (place), graveyard (place), place (resting place)
- death & life: grave (place), graveyard (place), live (location)
- epithet: bowl (Vietnam’s rice bowl, etc.), Detroit (India’s Detroit, etc.)
- farming & agriculture: bowl (rice bowl), bowl (salad bowl / agriculture), breadbasket (Pakistan’s breadbasket, etc.)
- fox: foxhole
- house: home (home for the archive, etc.), live (location)
- insect: hole (spider hole)
- manufacturing: Detroit (India’s Detroit, etc.)
- map: map (on the map), map (drop off the map, etc.)
- mechanism: hub (center)
- military: foxhole, hole (spider hole), nest (mortar nest, etc.)
- nuclear energy: ground zero
- sign, signal, symbol: bowl (Vietnam’s rice bowl, etc.), breadbasket (Pakistan’s breadbasket, etc.)
- spider: hole (spider hole)
- temperature: hotspot (place)

### PLACE (2)
- amount: Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: mecca, pilgrimage (trip)
- biodiversity: Amazon (epithet), Galapagos (epithet), Serengeti (Serengeti of the North, etc.)
- canals: Venice (epithet)
- computer: alley (Silicon Alley)
- danger: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- destruction: Chernobyl
- difficulty, easiness & effort: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- epithet: Paris (epithet)
- experimentation: laboratory
- failure, accident & impairment: Chernobyl
- gossip: water cooler
- migration: Ellis Island (epithet)
- money: Wall Street (Wall Street of fish, etc.)
- protection & lack of protection: haven (safety), refuge, shelter (v)
- punishment & recrimination: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)
- pursuit, capture & escape: getaway
- ruins: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
- size: Mount Everest (and Everest)
- steel: Ruhr Valley
• superlative: capital (capital of crime, etc.), Mount Everest (and Everest), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Paris (epithet), Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
• volcano: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)

PLANE (2) (see also flying & falling)
• achievement, recognition & praise: parachute (golden parachute)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: barnstorm (v)
• behavior: autopilot (on autopilot)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bail out (leave), parachuted, parachute (golden parachute)
• consciousness & awareness: autopilot (on autopilot), blind (flying blind)
• control & lack of control: spiral (spiral out of control, etc.)
• decline: crater (v), nose dive (v / decline), nosedive (n / decline), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin)
• development: land (plane lands)
• directing: steward (role)
• failure, accident & impairment: crash-land (v), flameout, flame out (v)
• growth & development: take off (v)
• help & assistance: steward (role), tailwind (n)
• increase & decrease: nosedive (noun / decrease), nosedive (verb / decrease), spiral (downward or upward)
• initiation: take off (v)
• message: barnstorm (v)
• restraint & lack of restraint: envelope (push the envelope)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: flameout, flame out (v)

PLANT (2) (see also farming & agriculture; tree; wheat)
• affliction: bane (n), thorn, thorny
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: root (root cause)
• appearance & disappearance: crop up (v), mushroom (v), pop up (v), spring up (v), sprout (v)
• bases: deep-rooted (adj), root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.), rooted
• branching system: offshoot, tendril (growth)
• character & personality: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
• coercion & motivation: carrot (reward), carrot-and-stick
• computer: root (root server)
• configuration: sown (mine-sown, etc.)
• content: fodder, grist (grist for the mill, etc.), hay (make hay, etc.)
• corruption: blight (v), blight (n), blighted
• creation & transformation: germinate (v), kernel (n), plant (create), seed (n), sow (v)
• decline: shrivel (v), wilt (v), wither (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: prune (v), root out (v), transplant (n), weed out (v), uprooted
• extent & scope: tendril (growth)
• feeling, emotion & effect: withering (adj)
• flaws & lack of flaws: thorny
• gossip: fodder (n), grapevine (through / over the grapevine)
• growth & development: bloom (v), blossom (v), budding, burgeoning (adj), cross-pollination, cultivate (v), cultivated, fallow (adj), flourish (v), flower (v), flowering, fruition (n), ground (fertile ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hotbed, kernel (n), nourished, nurture (v), nurtured, plant (create), ripe (adj), root (take root, etc.), seed (n), soil (fertile soil), sow (v), tendril (growth), thrive (v), transplant (n)
• increase & decrease: burgeoning (adj), grow (increase), growing (increasing)
• origin: root (root of the problem, etc.), root (origin)
• product: fruit (product), reap (v)
• proper name: garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)
- resemblance: garden (resemblance), tendril (resemblance)
- resiliency: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
- strength & weakness: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
- substance & lack of substance: husk (n)
- throwing, putting & planting: plant (put), plant (create), planted, sow (v), sown (planted)
- worth & lack of worth: fruitful (adj)

**PLATFORM (2)**
- mind: mind (platform)

**PORTAL (1) (see also access & lack of access; opportunities & possibilities)**
- dam: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
- doors & thresholds: door (portal), portal (entrance), threshold (cross the threshold), threshold (portal)
- flood: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
- gate: gate (portal), gateway, portal (entrance)
- infrastructure: avenue (portal)
- river: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
- verb: threshold (cross the threshold)
- water: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
- window: window (window to the West, etc.)

**POSITION (2) (see also direction)**
- allegiance, support & betrayal: back (v), backed, backing (support), side (on one’s side / time), side (on one’s side / person)
- basis: behind (basis)
- competition: underdog (competition)
- context: step (step back / perspective)
- hierarchy: apex (apex animal, etc.), barrel (at the bottom of the barrel), bottom (at the bottom), over (dominance), tier (hierarchy), top (on top), top dog (hierarchy), under (hierarchy), underdog (hierarchy)
- importance & significance: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), burner (front burner), centerpiece, front (front and center), right-hand (right-hand man, etc.)
- perception, perspective & point of view: bird’s-eye (bird’s-eye view), fisheye, grassroots, perspective (from a perspective), perspective (in perspective), perspective (into perspective), perspective (other), point of view (from somebody’s point of view), point of view (other), step (step back / perspective), vantage point (from a vantage point), view (perspective), worm’s-eye (adj), zoom (zoom out)
- position, policy & negotiation: middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-roader, shift (change)
- priority: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), front (front and center)
- situation: middle (in the middle)
- social interaction: side (on the good side, etc.), side (on the wrong side, etc.)
- strength & weakness: underdog (competition)
- superiority & inferiority: above (above the law, etc.), underdog (competition)
- time: side (on one’s side / time)

**POSITION, POLICY & NEGOTIATION (1) (see also strategy; subterfuge)**
- ball: ball (ball in somebody’s court)
- baseball: hardball (n)
- cards: bluff (n)
- direction: back (back and forth), give-and-take
- fence: straddle (straddle the fence)
- foot: footing (position)
• gambling: bluff (n), chip (bargaining chip)
• ground, terrain & land: brinksmanship (n)
• horse: horse-trading
• line: line (a hard line, etc.)
• money: haggle (v), haggling, horse-trading
• movement: budge (v), shift (change)
• person: middle-of-the-roader
• position: middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-roader, shift (change)
• sports & games: ball (ball in somebody's court), hardball (n)
• standing, sitting & lying: footing (position), posture (position), posturing, sit down (v), sit-down (other), stand (position), stance (take a stance), stand (a tough stand, etc.), straddle (straddle the fence)
• table: sit down (v), sit-down (other), table (on the table), table (come back to the table), table (off the table), table (turn the tables)
• verb: budge (v), haggle (v), sit down (v), stance (take a stance), stand (position), straddle (straddle the fence), table (come back to the table), table (turn the tables)

**POSSESSION (1)** (see also attainment)
• body: lap (possession)
• boundary: claim (stake a claim)
• crime: hijack (v), hijacked, usurp (v)
• direction: fall (fall into the hands, etc.)
• food & drink: fork over (v)
• ground, terrain & land: claim (stake a claim), soil (on one's soil), territory (stake out territory)
• hand: cling (v), empty-handed, fall (fall into the hands, etc.), grab (land grab, etc.), grasp (in one’s grasp), grasp (out of one’s grasp), grasp (possession), hand (possession), handed over (possession), hand-me-down, hand over (v), handover, hang on to (v), hold (long-held), hold (verb / possession), hold (noun / possession), hold on (possession), seize (v)
• military: surrender (v)
• money: own (v), own (make something one's own), ownership (n), trade (v)
• royalty: usurp (v)
• surveying: claim (stake a claim), stake out (v)
• verb: cling (v), fall (fall into the hands, etc.), fork over (v), hand over (v), hang on to (v), hijack (v), hold (verb / possession), hold on (possession), own (v), own (make something one’s own), seize (v), stake out (v), surrender (v), trade (v), usurp (v)

**POTATO (2)**
• importance & significance: potato (small potatoes)

**POWER (1)** (see also driving force; force; oppression; superiority & inferiority)
• animal: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), oats (feel one’s oats)
• boxing: heavyweight (n), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• cards: hand (strengthen one’s hand)
• center & periphery: inner circle (n), insider (person), outsider (person)
• chess: pawn (n)
• creature: giant (sleeping giant)
• dam: powerhouse (n)
• electricity: powerhouse (n)
• engine: turbocharge (v)
• explosion: explosive (power)
• fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• fist: clout (n)
• health & medicine: potency (strength), potent (adj), steroids (on steroids)
• history: czar (n), empire (enterprise), mogul (n), overlord (person), pharaoh (power), tyrant
• horse: oats (feel one’s oats)
• infrastructure: corridor (corridors of power), hall (halls of academe, etc.)
• military: chieftain (n), coup (power)
• person: chieftain (n), czar (n), insider (person), mogul (n), overlord (person), outsider (person)
• river: powerhouse (n)
• royalty: dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), lord over (v), overlord (person), throne (power)
• size: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (sleeping giant), minnow (n)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flex (muscle, etc.), muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (v)
• sports & games: pawn (n)
• tools & technology: high-powered (adj), leverage (n), leverage (v)
• verb: flex (muscle, etc.), hand (strengthen one’s hand), leverage (v), lord over (v), muscle (v), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), turbocharge (v), weight (put / throw one’s weight behind something), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• violence: clout (n)
• weapon: big shot
• weight: heavyweight (n), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (put / throw one’s weight behind something), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)

PREDATION (1) (see also affliction; competition; corruption, danger)
• allusion: Darwinian
• animal: apex (apex animal, etc.), blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood), circle (predation), coyote (coyote), dog-eat-dog, food chain, hawk (n), hawkish (adj), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), jugular (go for the jugular), law (law of the jungle, etc.), loan shark, lone wolf, lurk (v), lurking, pounce (v), predation, predator (people), predatory (adj), prey (prey on somebody), prey (fall prey to something), prey (other), prowl (on the prowl), shark (predation), stalk (v), tooth and nail (adv), victim (fall victim to something), wolf (predation), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• bird: hawk (n), hawkish (adj)
• blood: blood (smell blood), blood (out for blood), blood (draw blood)
• clothing & accessories: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• dog: dog-eat-dog; heel (nip at somebody’s heels)
• jungle: law (law of the jungle, etc.)
• movement: pounce (v)
• shark: circle (predation), loan shark, shark (predation)
• throat: jugular (go for the jugular), throat (predation)
• verb: blood (smell blood), circle (predation), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), jugular (go for the jugular), lurk (v), pounce (v), prey (prey on somebody), prey (fall prey to something), stalk (v), victim (fall victim to something)
• wolf: heel (nip at somebody’s heels), lone wolf, wolf (n), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)

PREDATION (2)
• accusation & criticism: savage (v)
• activity: frenzy (feeding frenzy)
• affliction: eat (destroy), heel (nip at somebody’s heels)
• animal: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• behavior: backbiting, bloodthirsty, frenzy (feeding frenzy)
• blood: bloodthirsty
• concealment & lack of concealment: hole (spider hole)
• conflict: blood sport (n)
• destruction: consume (destroy), devour (destroy), eat (destroy), nibble (destroy)
• fate, fortune & chance: jaw (jaws of defeat, etc.)
• proper name: Predator (UAV)
• punishment & recrimination: blood (out for blood)
• pursuit, capture & escape: stalk (v)
• speech: savage (v)
• walking, running & jumping: pounce (v)

**PREP, ADV, ADJ, PARTICLE (2)**

• allegiance, support & betrayal: against (opposition), behind (support), down (down for something), for (support), in (all in), out (want out), there (there for me, etc.), up (up for something), with (support)
• appearance & reality: underneath (reality)
• avoidance & separation: apart (division)
• bases: behind (basis)
• behavior: below (behavior), beneath (behavior)
• character & personality: about (character)
• commitment & determination: down (down for something), in (all in), up (up for something)
• competition: ahead (competition)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: above (above the fray, etc.)
• decline: down (decline)
• division & connection: apart (division), between (come between, etc.)
• enthusiasm: into (be into something)
• failure & accident: down (functioning)
• feeling, emotion & effect: down (feeling), up (feeling)
• functioning: down (functioning)
• future: ahead (future), forward (future)
• hierarchy: over (dominance), under (hierarchy)
• identity & nature: about (character)
• increase & decrease: up (higher)
• involvement: in (in deep, etc.), into (involvement)
• obstacles & impedance: against (up against)
• past & present: back (go back in time, etc.)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: in (currency), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.), out (currency), over (finished)
• progress & lack of progress: ahead (progress), there (destination)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: behind (put something behind)
• resiliency: behind (put something behind)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: against (opposition)
• sequence: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: ahead (go ahead, etc.), off (it is off, etc.), on (it is on, etc.), over (finished)
• superiority & inferiority: above (above the law, etc.)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), time (past time), time (it’s time, etc.), up (your time is up, etc.)

**PRESENCE & ABSENCE (1) (see also appearance & disappearance; occurrence; searching & discovery)**

• air: vacuum (n), void (n)
• atmosphere: vacuum (n), void (n)
• bridge: bridgehead (n)
• creature: ghost town
• foot: foothold (n), footprint (n), toehold (n)
• ground, terrain & land: footprint (n), ground (on the ground), territory (with the territory)
• hand: hand (on hand)
• height: loom (loom large, etc.)
• military: missing in action (MIA)
• mountains & hills: foothold (n)
• picture: picture (out of the picture)
• river: bridgehead (n)
• toe: toehold (n)
• verb: loom (loom large, etc.)

PRESSURE (1)
• temperature: heat (pressure)
• tools & technology: clampdown, screw (tighten the screws), vise (pressure)
• verb: screw (tighten the screws), wall (walls close in)
• volcano: volcano (pressure)
• wall: wall (walls close in)

PRESSURE (2)
• amelioration & renewal: decompression, outlet (n), steam (take the steam out, etc.), vent (v)
• attenuation: deflate (pressure)
• coercion & motivation: press (v), pressure (under pressure, pressured
• configuration: sardined, squeeze (fit), squeezed (fitted)
• conflict: blowup (conflict)
• creation & transformation: squeeze (squeeze something for / from / out of something), wring (wring something from / out of something)
• environment: pressure cooker
• feeling, emotion & effect: blow up (emotion), explode (emotion), pressure (under pressure), pressure (n), pressured, pressure-filled, steam (blow / let off steam), vent (v)
• increase & decrease: ratchet up (v)
• initiation: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), explode (emotion), uncork (v)
• oppression: clampdown (n), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), squeeze (pressure), squeezed (oppressed), vise (pressure), wringer (through the wringer)
• situation: crunch (crunch time), trap (Chinese finger trap)
• taking & removing: wring (wring something from / out of something)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: crunch (crunch time), crunch (cash crunch, etc.)

PRIMACY, CURRENCY, DECLINE & OBSOLESCENCE (1)
• allusion: old guard
• animal: breed (dying breed, etc.), dinosaur, dodo, fossil, pasture (put out to pasture), species (vanishing species)
• antiques: antique (adj), antique (n), museum (n)
• astronomy: apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), nadir (at the nadir), nadir (since the nadir), nadir (other), outshine (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax (wax and wane), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• birth: renaissance
• blade: cutting edge (on the cutting edge), cutting edge (other)
• burial: knell (death knell)
• clothing & accessories: fashion (out of fashion)
• container: time capsule
• creature: ghost (ghost signs, etc.)
• day: day (in the old days, etc.), day (old days), day (back in the day), day (days of yore), day (have one’s day), day (of one’s day), day (those days), day (glory days), heyday (n), latest (most recent), sun (currency and obsolescence), twilight (in the twilight)
• death & life: doomed, dying (dying industry, etc.), knell (death knell), live on (v), living (adj), vanishing (disappearance)
• decline: fall (n)
• direction: apex (highest point), apogee (at an apogee), apogee (n), ascent (on the ascent), ascent (with the descent), ascent (other), bottom (hit bottom), bring down (v), descent (decline), downfall (n), fall (fall from power, etc.), go (come and go), gone (those days are gone, etc.), height (at the height), in (currency), out (currency), overthrow (v), overturn (v), overturned, plunge (noun / decline), rise (rise of agriculture, etc.), return (animals, etc.), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), step down (v), strike down (v), throwback (n), top (on / at / to the top), topple (v)
• earth & world: world (lost world)
• epithet: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
• equilibrium & stability: topple (v)
• family: legacy (obsolescence)
• flood: high-water (high-water mark)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (bring back)
• height: dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• history: gilded (Gilded Age), golden age / era, legacy (obsolescence), medieval (adj), old guard, prehistoric (adj), renaissance, Stone Age
• horse: pasture (put out to pasture)
• journeys & trips: lost (extinction), pass by (progress), way (on the way out), way (give way to something), way (go the way of something), wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.)
• light & dark: dim (primacy), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), overshadow (v), star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement), twilight (in the twilight)
• military: guard (changing of the guard)
• money: legacy (obsolescence), own (v)
• moon: wane (on the wane), wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
• mountains & hills: hill (over the hill), peak (at the peak), peak (other)
• movement: go (come and go), pass by (progress), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin), time (time has passed)
• pendulum: pendulum (reversal)
• plane: nosedive (noun / decline), nosedive (verb / decline), tailspin (into a tailspin), tailspin (in a tailspin)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: in (currency), next (next Steve Jobs, etc.), out (currency), over (finished)
• religion: relic
• royalty: dethrone (v), dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), reign (n), reigning, throne (in line for the throne), throne (pretender to the throne), throne (primacy)
• ruins: topple (v)
• school & education: old school
• sea: high tide, washed-up (adj)
• season: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
• shadow: overshadow (v)
• sound: knell (death knell)
• sports & games: lose out (v)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand the test of time, etc.)
• star: star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement)
• sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), sun (currency and obsolescence), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• taste: flavor (flavor of the month)
• temperature: cold (cold case, etc.)
• tide: high tide
• verb: bring (bring back), bring down (v), dethrone (v), dim (primacy), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), go (come and go), live on (v), lose out (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), overturn (v), own (v), pasture (put out to pasture), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), step down (v), topple (v), wane (v), wax (wax and wane), way (give way to something), way (go the way of something)
• walking, running & jumping: step down (v)
• waste: dustbin (n)
• water: washed-up (adj)
• wave: washed-up (adj)

**PRIORITY (1)** *(see also achievement, recognition & praise; bases; importance & significance; superlative)*
• direction: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), front (front and center)
• position: back burner (on the back burner), back burner (to the back burner), back seat (take a back seat), burner (front burner), front (front and center)

**PRODUCT (1)**
• allusion: Frankenstein (product)
• characterization: label (n), labeled
• creature: Frankenstein (product)
• family: daughter (n), offspring
• farming & agriculture: commodity, crop (n), farm (enterprise), fruit (product), reap (v), harvest (v), harvest (n), harvested
• fruits & vegetables: apple (product), bear (bear fruit, etc.), fruit (product)
• manufacturing: byproduct
• meat: meat (piece of meat)
• movement: spin-off (n)
• plant: fruit (product), reap (v)
• verb: bear (bear fruit, etc.), harvest (v), reap (v)

**PROGRESS & LACK OF PROGRESS (1)**
• animal: tail (chase one’s tail)
• baby: step (baby steps, etc.)
• ball: roll (on a roll)
• boat: adrift, doldrums (n), headway (n), moored
• chess: stalemate (n)
• corner: corner (turn the corner)
• direction: adrift, advance (v), advance (n), ahead (progress), ahead (adv), ahead (get ahead, etc.), backwards (progress), behind (progress), breakthrough (n), circle (go in circles), climb (progress), forward (move forward, etc.), left behind (progress), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (move up), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), runaround, setback (progress), tail (chase one’s tail), wind (wind its way)
• dog: tail (chase one’s tail)
• engine: stall (v), stalled
• eye: look up (v)
• ground, terrain & land: ditch (n), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), mired (stuck), morass (n), mud (sink in the mud), quagmire (n), rut (in a rut), stuck (adj)
• infrastructure: blind alley (n)
• journeys & trips: beginning (progress), journey: blind alley (n), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), come (come a long way), far (progress), forward (move forward, etc.), go (a distance to go, etc.), go (progress), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), keep up (progress), milestone, move (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), road (road from/to something), setback (progress), sidetracked, step (a step in the right direction), there (destination), turn back (v), way (a long way), wind (wind its way)
• mechanism: stall (v), wheel (spin one’s wheels), wheel (hamster wheel)
• military: breakthrough (n)
• mountains & hills: level off (v), peak (other), plateau (n), valley (n)
• movement: advance (v), advance (n), ahead (get ahead, etc.), backwards (progress), beginning (progress), breakthrough (n), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), checkpoint (at a checkpoint), circle (go in circles), come (come a long way), forward (move forward, etc.), go (progress), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), headway (n), impasse (n), inertia (n), keep up (progress), lag (progress), limp (v), march (march ahead, etc.), march (n), momentum (n), moored, move (progress), move (move up), movement (progress), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), pass (progress), pass by (progress), plod (v), progress (v), roll (v), roll (on a roll), rut (in a rut), setback (progress), sidetracked, stand (stand still / progress), standstill (n), there (destination), traction (gain/build/get traction), wheel (spin one’s wheels), wheel (hamster wheel), wind (wind its way)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (progress), there (destination)
• religion: limbo (in limbo)
• river: backwater (n)
• shape: trough (n)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand still / progress), standstill (n)
• tools & technology: needle (move the needle, etc.)
• train: track (on track)
• verb: advance (v), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), circle (go in circles), climb (progress), corner (turn the corner), forward (move forward, etc.), go (progress), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), jump (progress), keep up (progress), leapfrog (v), level off (v), limp (v), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (progress), move (move up), mud (sink in the mud), needle (move the needle, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), plod (v), progress (v), stall (v), stand (stand still / progress), stumble (v), tail (chase one’s tail), traction (gain/build/get traction), turn back (v), vault (v), wall (hit a wall), wind (wind its way)
• walking, running & jumping: catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), jump (progress), jump (in jumps), keep up (progress), lag (progress), leap (n), leapfrog (v), limp (v), limp (n), march (n), march (march ahead, etc.), plod (v), step (a step forward), step (a step in the right direction), step (a step back/ backwards), step (baby steps, etc.), stride (progress), stumble (v), stumble (n), stumbling block, vault (v)
• wall: wall (hit a wall)
• weather & climate: drought (in a drought), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)
• wind: doldrums (n)

**PROPER NAME (1)**

- allusion: Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.)
- animal: horn (Horn of Africa, etc.), Predator (UAV)
- arm: elbow (Elbow Lake, etc.)
• astronomy: star (Silver Star, etc.)
• atmosphere: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
• back: backbone (Devil's Backbone, etc.)
• bird: beak (Parrot's Beak, etc.)
• cloth: ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)
• color: black (Black Sea, etc.), red (Red Sea, etc.), white (White Sea, etc.), yellow (Yellow Sea, etc.)
• creature: angel (Guardian Angels, etc.), devil (Devil's Falls, etc.), dragon (Dragon's Jaw, etc.), elf (Elves Chamber, etc.), fairy (Fairy Bridge, etc.), Frankenstein (Frankenstein Cliff, etc.), giant (Giants Causeway, etc.), monster (Monster.com, etc.), troll (Troll Wall, etc.)
• desert: oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
• ear: ear (Ear of the Wind, etc.)
• earth & world: world (Disney World, etc.)
• eye: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
• family: mother (Mother Mountain, etc.), sister (the Seven Sisters, etc.), twin (the Twins, etc.)
• fortification: castle (Castle Peaks, etc.), rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.)
• gate: gate (Iron Gate, etc.)
• geometry: triangle (Ilemi Triangle, etc.)
• ground, terrain & land: oasis (Oasis of the Seas, etc.)
• hammer: hammer (Thor's Hammer, etc.)
• health & medicine: fever (fever tree, etc.)
• horn: Horn of Africa, etc.
• horse: saddle (Saddle Island, etc.), spur (Geneva Spur, etc.)
• Iliad & Odyssey: Odyssey (Mars Odyssey, etc.)
• infrastructure: buttress (Castle Buttress, etc.), corridor (Siliguri Corridor, etc.), courthouse (Devil's Courthouse, etc.), Hilton (Fontana Hilton, etc.), pillar (Pillar Rock, etc.), pipeline (Pipeline, etc.)
• insect: beehive (Beehive cluster, etc.)
• journeys & trips: pathfinder (Mars Pathfinder, etc.), road (the Silk Road, etc.)
• magic: magic (Magic Kingdom, etc.)
• Middle Ages: knight (Black Knights, etc.)
• military: Aegis Combat System, Predator (UAV), rampart (Upper Ramparts, etc.), star (Silver Star, etc.)
• mountains & hills: valley (Silicon Valley, etc.)
• nose: nose (Devil's Nose, etc.)
• plant: garden (Cactus Garden, etc.)
• predation: Predator (UAV)
• religion: angel (Guardian Angels, etc.), apostle (Twelve Apostles, etc.), cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), devil (Devil’s Falls, etc.), hell (Hell's Gate, etc.), oracle (Oracle Corporation, etc.)
• river: river (Niger River, etc.)
• royalty: emperor (Exmoor Emperor, etc.), king (king cobra, etc.), kingdom (Magic Kingdom, etc.), queen (Dairy Queen, etc.), throne (Blondie's Throne, etc.)
• sea: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
• sky: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
• stair: stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)
• star: (Silver Star, etc.)
• storm: storm (Desert Storm, etc.)
• sword: swordfish
• table: table (Table Mountain, etc.)
• throat: throat (Devil’s Throat, etc.)
• tools & technology: barometer (Arab Barometer, etc.)
• tree: Oak (Royal Oak, etc.)
• water: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
• wave: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
• weapon: Aegis Combat System

**PROPER NAME (2)**
• reputation: name (reputation)

**PROTECTION & LACK OF PROTECTION (1) (see also attenuation; force; strength & weakness)**
• allusion: Achilles’ heel (n)
• animal: carapace (protection), foxhole, ground (go to ground), holed up, shell (protection), sitting duck, watchdog (n)
• back: back (vulnerability, attack)
• bird: sitting duck
• blade: hack (get into)
• boat: batten (batten down), harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor), haven (safety), lighthouse
• circus: safety net
• clothing & accessories: naked (protection)
• dog: watchdog (n)
• electricity: insulate (v), insulated, insulation
• fire: firewall
• fox: foxhole, ground (go to ground), holed up
• fortification: bastion, breach (n), bulwark (n), castle (protection), citadel (n), drawbridge (protection), entrenched, fort (n), fortress (n), loophole (n), moat (n), rampart (fortification), redoubt (n), stronghold
• gesture: head (keep one’s head down)
• ground, terrain & land: dug in, entrenched, foxhole, ground (go to ground), holed up
• hand: hand (hands off)
• hardness & softness: harden (protect)
• head: head (keep one’s head down)
• health & medicine: immune, immunity, inoculate (v), inoculation, quarantine (v)
• history: wagon (circle the wagons)
• hole: chink (n), foxhole
• horse: inroads (make inroads)
• house: home (home in Islam, etc.)
• hunting: ground (go to ground), holed up
• Iliad & Odyssey: Achilles’ heel (n)
• infrastructure: guardrail (protection)
• insect: cocoon (isolation)
• magic: charmed (charmed life, etc.)
• Middle Ages: armor (protection)
• military: aegis (n), bastion, armor (protection), breach (n), bulwark, castle (protection), citadel (n), drawbridge (protection), entrenched, fort, fortress, foxhole, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), guardian (protection), head (keep one’s head down), loophole (n), moat (n), rampart (protection), redoubt (n), shield (n), stronghold
• money: insurance
• Native Americans: wagon (circle the wagons)
• person: guardian (protection)
• place: haven (safety), refuge, shelter (v)
• religion: cloistered
• royalty: castle (protection)
• sea: harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor)
• storm: batten (batten down)
• target: target (easy target)
• umbrella: umbrella (protection)
• verb: ground (go to ground), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), hack (get into), harbor (v), harden (protect), head (keep one’s head down), inoculate (v), insulate (v), quarantine (v), shelter (v), wagon (circle the wagons)
• weapon: aegis (n), armor (protection), shield (n), target (easy target)

PROXIMITY (1)
• arm: reach (beyond reach), reach (within reach), stone's throw
• astronomy: cusp (on the cusp), orbit (n)
• blade: edge (at the edge)
• boundary: border (proximity)
• corner: corner (around the corner)
• day: eve (on the eve)
• direction: front (in front / proximity)
• doors & thresholds: door (knock at / on the door), doorstep (on / at the doorstep), threshold (on the threshold)
• eye: sight (in sight)
• finger: fingertip (at one's fingertips)
• ground, terrain & land: brink (on the brink), brink (to the brink), brink (back from the brink), edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice), verge (on the verge), verge (to the verge)
• hair: hair’s-breadth
• hand: fingertip (at one’s fingertips), hand (at hand)
• house: backyard (in somebody's backyard), backyard (other), home (close to home), home (hit home), neighborhood (in the neighborhood)
• light & dark: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
• mountains & hills: edge (on the edge), precipice (at the precipice)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: bone (close to the bone, etc.)
• theater: seat (front seat), seat (front-row seat)
• verb: door (knock at / on the door), home (hit home), shadow (follow)
• walking, running & jumping: step (a step away), step (a step closer)

PROXIMITY (2)
• avoidance & separation: distance (v)
• division & connection: daylight (division), distance (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: close (feeling), cozy (adj), distance (feeling)
• relationship: close (feeling), cozy (adj)

PUMP (2)
• directing: pumped (directed)
• feeling, emotion & effect: pump up (v), pumped (feeling)
• increase & decrease: pump up (v)

PUNISHMENT & RECRIMINATION (1) (see also judgement)
• allusion: nemesis (n)
• animal: blood (out for blood), doghouse (in the doghouse), scapegoat (n)
• ax: ax (ax to grind)
• baseball: one-strike-and-you’re-out
• blade: ax (ax to grind)
• blood: blood (out for blood)
• books & reading: book (throw the book at somebody)
• dog: doghouse (in the doghouse)
• epithet: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)
• fire: coal (rake somebody over the coals)
• fish: hook (off the hook)
• fist: beat (beat oneself up)
• foot: kick (kick oneself)
• hand: hand down / out (punishment, etc.), handed down / out (punishment, etc.), wrist (slap on the wrist)
• head: head (heads will roll, etc.)
• justice: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.), hanging (hanging offense), hook (off the hook), reprieve (n), sentence (life sentence)
• key: key (throw away the key)
• military: prisoner (no prisoners)
• person: whipping boy (person)
• place: Alcatraz (Alcatraz of the South, etc.)
• predation: blood (out for blood)
• religion: hell (hell to pay), nemesis (n)
• royalty: whipping boy (person)
• speech: flog (criticize)
• sports & games: one-strike-and-you’re-out
• temperature: heat (criticism)
• verb: beat (beat oneself up), book (throw the book at somebody), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crack down (v), flog (criticize), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), key (throw away the key), kick (kick oneself), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
• violence: crackdown (n), crack down (v), flog (criticize), hanging (hanging offense), head (heads will roll, etc.), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
• whip: crackdown (n), crack down (v), flog (criticize), whipping boy (person)

**PUPPET (2)**
• computer: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
• control & lack of control: puppet (control), puppeteer (n), string (pull strings)
• subterfuge: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)

**PURSES & WALLETS (2) (see also clothing & accessories)**
• money: purse (money), purse strings, pocket (deep pockets), pocketbook, checkbook, wallet

**PURSUIT, CAPTURE & ESCAPE (1)**
• animal: expedition (fishing expedition), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), dragnet (n), dragnet (cast a dragnet), ground (go to ground), holed up, land (land a job, etc.), low (lying low), stalk (v)
• boat: trawl (v)
• cat: cat (cat and mouse / noun), cat (cat-and-mouse / adjective)
• container: way (way out / escape)
• control & lack of control: pocket (in the pocket)
• crime: poach (v)
• fire: smoke out
• fish: dragnet (cast a dragnet), dragnet (n), expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), hook (off the hook), land (land a job, etc.), lure (v), lure (n), net (cast a net), nibble (n), reel in (v), troll (v)
• fox: ground (go to ground), holed up
• ground, terrain & land: ground (go to ground), holed up, rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.)
• height: low (lying low)
• hunting: bait (n), capture (v), catch up (pursuit), ensnare (v), ensnared, expedition (fishing expedition), fish (v), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), go (go after somebody / attack), ground (go to ground), headhunter (n), holed up, hunt (v), hunt (n), hunt (in the hunt), hunt down (v), hunter (plant), hunter (other), low (lying low), lure (v), lure (n), out (leave somebody an out, etc.), pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), pursuit (in pursuit), pursuit (other), scent (throw somebody off the scent), snare (v), stalk (v), track (cover one’s tracks), track down (v), tracked (followed), tracking, trail (follow), trail (throw somebody off the trail), trail (digital trail, etc.), trap (n), trapped
• justice: hook (off the hook)
• love, courtship & marriage: court (v), courtship (n), darling (n), seduce (v), seduced, suitor (n), woo (v), wooed
• mechanism: hatch (escape hatch)
• Middle Ages: quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
• nail: nail (nail somebody)
• occurrence: break out (v)
• place: getaway
• predation: break out (v)
• sports & games: game (game of hide and seek, etc.), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), hide-and-seek
• subterfuge: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
• verb: capture (v), catch up (pursuit), chase (v), court (v), dragnet (cast a dragnet), ensnare (v), fish (v), go (go after somebody / attack), ground (go to ground), hunt (v), hunt down (v), lure (v), nail (nail somebody), net (cast a net), pouch (v), pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), reel in (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scent (throw somebody off the scent), seduce (v), smoke out (v), snare (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), stalk (v), track (cover one’s tracks), track down (v), trail (follow), trawl (v), troll (v), woo (v)
• walking, running & jumping: chase (v), step (step ahead / pursuit)

PUZZLE (2)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: fall (fall into place), puzzle (problem), put (put something together), piece (missing pieces), piece together (v)
• comprehension & incomprehension: puzzle (problem), puzzling

RADIO (2)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: tuned (stay tuned)
• consciousness & awareness: tuned (stay tuned)
• development: tuned (stay tuned)
• unanimity & consensus: wavelength (on the same wavelength)

RAIN (2) (see also lightning; storm; weather & climate; wind)
• amount & effect: flurry (activity), rain (amount & effect), rain (rain down), shower (v)
• configuration: sprinkle (v), sprinkled (configuration)

RAT (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: rat (snitch)
• competition: rat race
• enthusiasm: rat (lab rat, etc.)
• evidence: rat (smell a rat)
• suspicion: rat (smell a rat)
• work & duty: rat race
READINESS & PREPAREDNESS (1)
- boat: batten (batten down)
- boxing: punch (beat somebody to the punch)
- color: red alert (on red alert)
- clothing & accessories: pants (caught with one's pants down)
- engine: tune-up (n)
- equilibrium & stability: balance (off balance), poised (adj)
- eye: blindsided
- foot: flatfooted (caught flatfooted), foot (on the back foot)
- ground, terrain & land: ground (prepare the ground)
- infrastructure: brace (v), braced
- mechanism: tune-up (n)
- military: ambush (v), ambushed, dry run, guard (off guard), guard (on guard), guard (lower one's guard), guard (keep one’s guard up)
- music: tune-up (n)
- scale: balance (off balance)
- school & education: homework
- shape: curve (behind / ahead of the curve)
- standing, sitting & lying: flatfooted (caught flatfooted), toe (on one’s toes)
- storm: batten (batten down)
- theater: rehearsal, rehearse, wing (in the wings)
- toe: toe (on one’s toes)
- verb: ambush (v), brace (v), ground (prepare the ground), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), pants (caught with one’s pants down), punch (beat somebody to the punch), rehearse (v)

RECONCILIATION, RESOLUTION & CONCLUSION (1) (see also initiation; starting, going, continuing & ending)
- blade: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- books & reading: book (close the book)
- burial: ghost (bury the ghost), put (put something to rest)
- bridge: bridge (water under the bridge)
- cloth: done and dusted, sewn (sewn up), wrap up (v)
- creature: bury (bury the ghosts, etc.), exorcise (v), ghost (bury the ghost)
- direction: behind (put something behind), bottom (get to the bottom of something), go (let something go)
- equilibrium & stability: settle down (v)
- fire: smoke (smoke clears)
- ground, terrain & land: dust (dust settles)
- infrastructure: tunnel (light at the end of the tunnel)
- journeys & trips: end (no end in sight), get (get through something), get (get over something), move on (resiliency)
- military: ceasefire (n), hatchet (bury the hatchet), truce (n)
- movement: move (take action), move on (resiliency)
- nail: nail down (settle)
- Native Americans: hatchet (bury the hatchet)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: behind (put something behind)
- religion: exorcise (v)
- rope: loose ends
- sleep: bed (put something to bed), rest (put something to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- storm: blow over (v)
• tree: olive branch
• verb: behind (put something behind), book (close the book), bed (put something to bed), blow over (v), exorcise (v), go (let something go), get (get through something), get (get over something), ghost (bury the ghost), hatchet (bury the hatchet), move on (resiliency), nail down (settle), rest (put something to rest), settle down (v), sleep (put something to sleep), wrap up (v)
• water: bridge (water under the bridge)
• wind: blow over (v)

REFERENCE (1)
• eye: see (refer to)
• verb: see (perceive)

RELATIONSHIP (1) (see also division & connection)
• animal: pet (pet cause, etc.)
• astronomy: satellite (n)
• baby: baby (relationship)
• bird: chicken (chicken and egg)
• bodily process: sneeze (v)
• family: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), brother (n), brotherhood, cousin (person), daughter (n), family (group), godfather (Godfather of Soul, etc.), incestuous (adj), kinship (n), mother (mother ship, etc.), mother (mother earth), orphan (n), orphaned, parent (relationship), relative (relationship), sibling, sister (relationship), stepchild (weakness), stepmother (cruelty), twin (relationship)
• geometry: triangle (things), triangle (people)
• hand: hand in hand
• love, courtship & marriage: bride (Bride of the Red Sea, etc.), divorce (n), marriage (relationship), marriage (shotgun marriage), married, odd couple
• money: coin (side of a coin), coin (double-sided coin)
• person: companion, cousin (person), stepchild (weakness)
• proximity: close (feeling), cozy (adj)
• shape: triangle (things), triangle (people)
• sign, signal, symbol: triangle (things), triangle (people)
• temperature: cozy (adj)
• verb: sneeze (v)

RELIGION (2) (see also Bible)
• accusation & criticism: crucified, crucify (v), jeremiad (bitter lament)
• action, inaction & delay: limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
• affliction: bedevil, bedeviled, cursed, fury (creature), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: faith, recant (v), road (road to Damascus)
• amelioration & renewal: dead (rise from the dead), exorcise (v), resurrect (v), resurrection (n), wand (magic wand)
• amount: litany (n)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: soul-searching
• appearance: angel (appearance), angel (angel-faced), cherubic (adj)
• attraction & repulsion: charisma (attraction), mecca, pilgrimage (trip)
• avoidance & separation: cloistered
• bases: mythology (n)
• behavior: angel (behavior), choirboy (behavior), devil (behavior), halo (n), hell (raise hell), hell-raiser, hell-raising, ritual, saint (superlative)
• biodiversity: Noah’s Ark
• campaign: crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role)
• certainty & uncertainty: limbo (in limbo)
• character & personality: angel (behavior), devil (behavior), public-spirited
• characterization: christen (v)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: exodus (n)
• commitment & determination: born-again, vow (v)
• comprehension & incomprehension: Delphic (adj)
• consciousness & awareness: road (road to Damascus)
• control & lack of control: god (play god, etc.)
• cost & benefit: blessed, blessing (benefit), curse (n), graced, miracle (other)
• creation & transformation: born-again, road (road to Damascus)
• death & life: last rites (n)
• destruction: kiss of death
• development: hegira (and hejira)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: exorcise (v)
• division & connection: cloistered, Paradise Lost (allusion), schism (n)
• dominance & submission: bow (v), kowtow (v)
• easiness, difficulty & effort: heaven (move heaven and earth)
• enthusiasm: acolyte (person), cathedral (other), church (n), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), fanatic (person), missionary (person), religion (enthusiasm), pilgrimage (trip), shrine (reverence), worship (v)
• environment: Dantesque (adj), Garden of Eden, heaven (environment), hell (living hell, etc.), hell (situation), hellhole, limbo (in limbo), paradise, Promised Land, purgatory (n)
• epithet: Jew (Jews of the Caribbean, etc.), miracle (Miracle on the Hudson, etc.), Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)
• experience: baptism, baptized
• fate, fortune & chance: cursed, god (mountain gods, etc.), Hail Mary, handwriting (on the wall), karma (fate), kiss of death, miracle (other), miraculous (adj), original sin, writing (writing on the wall)
• feeling, emotion & effect: dispirited (adj), godforsaken, hellish (adj), miraculous (adj), paradisiacal (adj), possessed, spirit (feeling)
• flaws & lack of flaws: Garden of Eden, heaven (environment), paradise
• force: juggernaut
• future: oracle (person), prophet (person), soothsayer (person)
• group, set & collection: cult (n)
• growth & development: rite (rite of passage)
• help & assistance: angel (guardian angel), angel (trail angel, etc.), savior (n)
• idea: iconoclasm (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), piety (n), sacred cow, shibboleth
• identity & nature: born-again, soul (identity)
• importance & significance: fetish (n), fetishize (v), hallowed (adj), sacred (adj), venerate (v), worship (v)
• initiation: Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.)
• insult: hell (go to hell)
• isolation & remoteness: cloistered
• judgment: Solomonic (adj)
• knowledge & intelligence: guru (person)
• message: apostle (n), choir (preach to the choir), convert (person), crusade (on a crusade), crusade (in a crusade), crusade (n), crusader (role), evangelical (adj), evangelist (person), golden rule, gospel (preach the gospel, etc.), guru (person), high priest, jeremiad (bitter lament), missionary (person), mantra (message), preach (v), prophet (person), proselytize (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message)
• person: acolyte (person), choirboy (behavior), convert (person), crusader (role), devotee (person), disciple (person), evangelist (person), guru (person), heretic (person), iconoclast (person), martyr (person), missionary (person), oracle (person), prophet (person), soothsayer (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: relic
• progress & lack of progress: limbo (in limbo)
• proper name: angel (Guardian Angels, etc.), apostle (Twelve Apostles, etc.), cathedral (Cathedral Cave, etc.), devil (Devil’s Falls, etc.), hell (Hell’s Gate, etc.), oracle (Oracle Corporation, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: cloistered
• punishment & recrimination: hell (hell to pay), nemesis (n)
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: exorcise (v)
• repetition: mantra
• representation: icon (symbol), iconic, patron saint
• resemblance: cathedral (resemblance)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: bow (v), kowtow (v), martyr (person)
• revenge: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
• reverence: cathedral (other), enshrine (v), enshrined, hymn (n), idolized, shrine (reverence), venerate (v), worship (v)
• reversal: road (road to Damascus)
• sacrifice: altar (at / on / upon the altar), sacrifice (give up something)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: anoint (v), anointed, beatification (n), beatify (v), Bible (authority), blasphemy, blessing (sanction), canon (literature), canon (other), canonical (adj), dogma (n), enshrine (v), excommunicated, heresy (n), heretic (person), iconoclasms (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), imprimitur, Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East), myth (n), pantheon (n), piety (n), sacred cow, shibboleth (n), taboo (n)
• shape: angel (snow angel)
• sign, signal, symbol: icon (graphic), icon (symbol), iconic
• situation: Dantesque (adj), hell (living hell, etc.), hell (situation), limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
• size: behemoth, Goliath (Bible), leviathan, Olympian (adj)
• script: hymnal (n)
• speech: pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v)
• strength & weakness: David and Goliath, etc., Goliath (Bible)
• superlative: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), angel (superlative), Garden of Eden, goddess, heaven (environment), Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), paradise, Promised Land, saint (superlative), sainthood (n)
• survival, persistence & endurance: hell (situation)
• time: grace (grace period)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: grace (grace period)
• unanimity & consensus: choir (preach to the choir)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: grail (holy grail), pray (v)
• worth & lack of worth: blessing (benefit), curse (n)

REPETITION (1) (see also transmission)
• bird: parrot (v)
• light & dark: shadow (mirror)
• mirror: mirror (v)
• religion: mantra (message)
• shadow: shadow (mirror)
• sound: echo (verb / effect), echo (repeat), echo (in an echo), echo chamber, echoed
• verb: echo (verb / effect), echo (repeat), mirror (v), parrot (v)
REPRESENTATION (1) (see also sign, signal, symbol)

- boat: figurehead (n)
- clothing & accessories: mantle (n)
- face: face (international face, etc.)
- fire: torch (carry a torch), torch (other), torchbearer
- flags & banners: banner (carry a banner), flag-bearer, standard-bearer
- foot: foot (put a foot forward)
- government: ambassador (role)
- mark: touchstone
- military: standard-bearer
- person: ambassador (role), standard-bearer
- picture: poster (poster child, etc.)
- religion: icon (symbol), iconic, patron saint
- sign, signal, symbol: poster (poster child, etc.)
- speech: voice (representation)
- standing, sitting & lying: stand for (v)
- verb: banner (carry a banner), stand for (v), torch (carry a torch)

REPUTATION (1)

- direction: high (high regard)
- family: legacy (reputation)
- ground, terrain & land: mud (drag something through the mud)
- history: legacy (reputation)
- light & dark: luster
- mark: black eye, mark (black mark), smear (v), smear (n), stain (v), stain (n)
- money: legacy (reputation)
- proper name: name (reputation)
- verb: mud (drag something through the mud), smear (v), stain (v)

RESEMBLANCE (1) (see also appearance)

- animal: carcass (n), gaggle (press gaggle, etc.), snake (a trail can snake), tail (orientation)
- atmosphere: cloud (resemblance)
- bird: gaggle (press gaggle, etc.)
- blade: slice (road slices, etc.)
- bodily process: belch (v), bowel (n), breathe (v), spit (spit down), spit (v), yawn (v)
- books & reading: fairy tale, story (horror story), storybook
- chemistry: rust (resemblance)
- circus: circus (media circus, etc.)
- cloth: strand (strand of hair, etc.), unfolding (opening), wrapped (covered)
- clothing & accessories: veil (covering)
- cloud: cloud (resemblance)
- desert: desert (environment)
- ear: ear (ear of corn, etc.)
- explosion: bomb (roach bomb, etc.)
- eye: eye (resemblance), peek (v)
- fire: tinderbox (resemblance)
- forest: forest (a forest of cranes, etc.)
- fortification: palisade (n), rampart (other)
- fountain: fountain (resemblance)
- ground, terrain & land: desert (environment)
- hair: hair (resemblance)
- health & medicine: rash (road rash, etc.)
- infrastructure: buttress (n), pillar (resemblance), street (cloud street, etc.), tunnel (resemblance)
- insect: cocoon (resemblance)
- island: island (beech island, etc.)
- knife: slice (road slices, etc.)
- military: rampart (other)
- moon: moonscape
- mountains & hills: mountainous (adj)
- mouth: mouth (entrance), spit (spit down), spit (v)
- music: opera, symphony (n)
- picture: paint (resemblance)
- plant: garden (resemblance), tendril (resemblance)
- religion: cathedral (resemblance)
- river: river (resemblance)
- rocket: rocket (resemblance)
- royalty: palace (movie palace, etc.)
- sea: island (beech island, etc.), lagoon, ocean, sea (sea of sand, etc.), shore (resemblance)
- season: winter (resemblance)
- skeleton: skeleton (resemblance)
- skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flesh (inside), skeleton (resemblance)
- sleep: awaken (nature, etc.), sleep (n), wake (resemblance)
- snake: snake (a trail can snake)
- sound: roar (n), symphony (n), whisper (sound)
- storm: storm (immune-system storm, etc.), thunder (sound), thunder (speech), thunderous
- story: fairy tale, story (horror story), storybook
- sword: swordfish
- theater: light show
- throat: throat (resemblance)
- tree: tree (resemblance)
- verb: belch (v), dance (resemblance), paint (resemblance), pour (resemblance), slice (road slices, etc.), spit (spit down), spit (v), stream (tears stream, etc.), thunder (speech), wake (resemblance), yawn (v)
- walking, running & jumping: resemblance: dance (resemblance), leap (the leap of a waterfall, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)
- wall: wall (wall of flames, etc.)
- waste: confetti
- water: cascade (a cascade of hair, etc.), flowing, fountain (resemblance), lake, pour (resemblance), stream (tears stream, etc.), stream (resemblance)
- whip: whip (resemblance)

**RESILIENCY (1) (see also amelioration & renewal; survival, persistence & endurance)**

- ball: bounce back (v), rebound (v), rebound (on the rebound)
- boxing: punch (roll with the punches)
- burden: carry on (v)
- destruction: piece (pick up the pieces)
- direction: behind (put something behind), comeback (n), head (keep one's head up), pick (pick oneself up)
- foot: feet (get back on one’s feet, etc.)
• force: push (push on)
• ground, terrain & land: dig (dig out), hole (dig oneself out of a hole)
• hand: hold on (survival), pick (pick oneself up)
• head: head (keep one’s head up)
• horse: saddle (get back in the saddle)
• infrastructure: put (put something back together)
• journeys & trips: get (get through something), get (get over something), go on (v), move on (resiliency)
• light & dark: bright (bright side)
• materials & substances: flexible (character)
• mechanism: put (put something back together)
• military: soldier (soldier on)
• mining: dig (dig out)
• movement: go on (v), move on (resiliency)
• person: dandelion (character), orchid (character), survivor (person)
• plant: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
• verb: behind (put something behind), bounce back (v), carry on (v), come back (v), dig (dig out), get (get through something), get (get over something), go on (v), head (keep one’s head up), hold on (survival), pick (pick oneself up), piece (pick up the pieces), punch (roll with the punches), push (push on), put (put something back together), rebound (v), soldier (soldier on)

RESISTANCE, OPPOSITION & DEFEAT (1) (see also conflict; dominance & submission)

• allusion: Pyrrhic victory, Waterloo
• animal: back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v), buck (v), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one’s ground), howl (v), roll over (v), squeal (protest), stare down (v), stare-down (n), tail (turn tail), tooth and nail (adv)
• arm: pushback (n), push back (v)
• back: back (back to the wall), back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v)
• bird: face (fly in the face)
• boat: mutinous (adj), mutiny (n)
• bodily process: gasp (last gasp)
• boxing: Muhammad Ali (epithet), punch (punch back), towel (throw in the towel)
• breathing: gasp (last gasp)
• cards: fold (v)
• chess: checkmate (n)
• direction: fall (defeat), uprising (resistance)
• dog: back (get one’s back up, etc.), roll over (v)
• epithet: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• explosion: blowback
• eye: stare down (v), stare-down (n)
• face: face (in one’s face), face (in the face of)
• fist: beat back (v), hit back (v)
• flags & banners: flag (plant one’s flag), stand (last stand, etc.)
• flying & falling: fall (defeat)
• foot: foot (put one’s foot down), heel (dig in one's heels), kick (kick one’s butt, etc.)
• fortification: siege (under siege), siege (other)
• ground, terrain & land: dig in (v), ground (hold / stand one's ground), ground (give ground), last-ditch (adj)
• horse: buck (v)
• heel: heel (dig in one’s heels), heel (on one’s heels)
• history: barricade (storm the barricades), underground railroad, Waterloo
• horse: balk (v)
• infrastructure: buckle (give way)
• knee: knee (bring to one’s knees)
• materials & substances: bend (v)
• military: combat (v), counterattack (n), fight (v), flag (plant one’s flag), give in (v), give up (stop trying), insurrection, last-ditch (adj), Pyrrhic victory, rebel (person), rebel (adj), rebellion (n), revolt (v), siege (under siege), siege (other), stand (last stand, etc.), surrender (v), Waterloo
• mining: cave (cave in)
• money: sell out (v)
• movement: budge (v), come out (against something), move (move an inch, etc.)
• nose: nose (thumb one’s nose)
• person: martyr (person), rebel (person)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: against (opposition)
• religion: bow (v), kowtow (v), martyr (person)
• ruins: buckle (give way)
• sea: tide (buck the tide)
• sound: grumble (n), howl (v), squeal (protest)
• speech: speak out (v), speak up (v)
• sports & games: checkmate (n), Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• standing, sitting & lying: back down (v), knee (bring to one’s knees), lie down (v), rise (resistance), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand up (stand up to something), supine (adj)
• tide: tide (buck the tide)
• verb: back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v), balk (v), barricade (storm the barricades), beat back (v), bow (v), buck (v), buckle (give way), budge (v), cave in (v), combat (v), come out (against something), counterattack (n), dig in (v), fall (defeat), fight (v), fold (v), foot (put one’s foot down), give in (v), give up (stop trying), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one’s ground), heel (dig in one’s heels), howl (v), kick (kick one’s butt, etc.), knee (bring to one’s knees), kowtow (v), lie down (v), move (move an inch, etc.), punch (punch back), push back (v), put up with (v), revolt (v), rise (resistance), roll over (v), sell out (v), speak out (v), squeal (protest), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand up (stand up to something), stare down (v), stonewall (v), surrender (v), tail (turn tail), take on (v), tide (buck the tide), towel (throw in the towel)
• violence: backlash
• walking, running & jumping: run (on the run / retreat)
• wall: stonewall (v)
• weapon: blowback
• whip: backlash

RESPONSIBILITY (1) (see also action, inaction & delay; reconciliation, resolution & conclusion)
• baseball: plate (step up to the plate)
• body: lap (in the lap of)
• direction: fall (devolve), live up to (something), man up (v)
• hand: hand (at the hands)
• shoulder: shoulder (fall on the shoulders), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.)
• sports & games: plate (step up to the plate)
• sword: sword (fall on one’s sword)
• verb: live up to (something), man up (v), plate (step up to the plate), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), step in (v), sword (fall on one’s sword)
• walking, running & jumping: step in (v), step up (rise to the occasion)
• weight: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (fall on the shoulders)
• military: watch (on one's watch)

RERAINT & LACK OF RESTRAINT (1) (see also behavior; constraint & lack of control; control & lack of control)
• access & lack of access: open (open marriage, etc.)
• alcohol: binge (on a binge), binge (other), drunk (adj), inebriate (v)
• allusion: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
• animal: wild (people), wild (run wild)
• arm: hold back (restraint), overreach (v)
• boat: overboard (behavior)
• boundary: limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overstep (v)
• boxing: belt (below the belt), glove (the gloves are off), punch (pull a punch)
• cards: hand (overplay one’s hand)
• control & lack of control: control (out of control), control (in control), control (under control)
• distance: far (too far), length (go to any lengths, etc.), stop (stop at nothing)
• hand: hand (get out of hand)
• history: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.)
• horse: unbridled
• materials & substances: brazen (adj)
• military: bridge (a bridge too far, etc.), over-the-top (adj)
• plane: envelope (push the envelope)
• sex: orgy
• speech: punch (pull a punch)
• sports & games: no-holds-barred, punch (pull a punch)
• verb: end (go off the deep end), envelope (push the envelope), hand (get out of hand), hand (overplay one’s hand), help (keep from, avoid), hold back (restraint), inebriate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overstep (v), punch (pull a punch), stop (stop at nothing)
• walking, running & jumping: overstep (v)
• water: end (go off the deep end)
• wrestling: no-holds-barred

REVENGE (1) (see also conflict) (see also oppression; violence)
• Bible: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
• bodily process: laugh (last laugh)
• eye: eye (an eye for an eye)
• food & drink: dish (revenge)
• money: pay (revenge), payback, score (settle a score, etc.)
• religion: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
• teeth: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
• verb: pay (revenge), score (settle a score, etc.)
• violence: vendetta

REVERENCE (1)
• religion: cathedral (other), enshrine (v), enshrined, hymn (n), idolized, shrine (reverence), venerate (v), worship (v)
• verb: enshrine (v), venerate (v), worship (v)

REVERSAL (1)
• allusion: road (road to Damascus)
• animal: bite (bite back, etc.), chicken (come home to roost), tail (turn tail)
• bell: bell (unring a bell)
• Bible: road (road to Damascus)
• bird: chicken (come homes to roost)
• boat: row (row back)
• direction: about-face (in an about-face), about-face, about-turn, backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), boomerang (n), climb down (v), course (reverse course), flip (v), flip-flopping (reversal), overturn (v), overturned, pivot (n), retreat (v), row (row back), turnaround (reversal), turn around (v), turnaround
• equilibrium & stability: overturn (v), overturned
• explosion: blowback, blow up (blow up in one's face), face (blow up in one's face)
• food & drink: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
• health & medicine: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
• heart: heart (change of heart)
• journeys & trips: backtrack (reversal), course (reverse course), road (road to Damascus), turnabout (reversal)
• justice: chicken (come home to roost)
• letters & characters: U-turn
• mechanism: backpedal (v), gear (switch gears), pivot (n), roll back (v)
• military: retreat (reverse)
• movement: backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal)
• music: tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune)
• pendulum: pendulum (reversal), swing (swing around)
• religion: road (road to Damascus)
• sea: tide (turn the tide, etc.)
• table: table (turn the tables)
• taste: medicine (a taste of one's own medicine)
• teeth: bite (bite back, etc.)
• tide: tide (turn the tide, etc.)
• verb: backfire (v), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), bell (unring a bell), bite (bite back, etc.), blow up (blow up in one's face), boomerang (v), climb down (v), course (reverse course), face (blow up in one's face), flip (v), gear (switch gears), overturn (v), overturned, retreat (reverse), ricochet (v), roll back (v), table (turn the tables), tail (turn tail), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tune (change one's tune), tune (change in tune), walk back (v)
• violence: backlash
• walking, running & jumping: walk back (n), walk back (v)
• weapon: backfire (v), blowback, blow up (blow up in one's face), boomerang (v), ricochet (v)
• whip: backlash

RIDING (2)
• dependency: ride (ride on something)
• experience: ride (rough ride, etc.)
• survival, persistence & endurance: ride out (v)

RIVER (2) (see also dam; flood)
• amelioration & renewal: bridge (v), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building
• amount: reservoir (amount)
• amount & effect: flood (amount), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), floodwaters, Niagara (the river and falls), river (amount and effect)
• branching system: confluence, feed (feed into), prong (river), stream (bloodstream, etc.), tributary (n)
• center & periphery: backwater (n), mainstream
• commitment & determination: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• concealment & lack of concealment: undercurrent (n)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bridge (cross that bridge)
• constraint & lack of constraint: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: upstream (swim upstream)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: swept away (removal)
• division & connection: bridge (n), bridge (v), bridge (air bridge, etc.), bridge-building (through bridge-building), bridge-building, stepping stone
• fate, fortune & chance: Rubicon (cross the Rubicon, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: run (run deep / high / strong), swept away (emotion)
• force: current (n), undercurrent (n)
• help & assistance: stepping stone
• importance & significance: watershed (n)
• isolation & remoteness: backwater
• movement: flood (move), flow (move), flow (n), river (amount and effect), stream (amount & effect)
• obstacles & impedance: dam (psychological dam, etc.), floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), logjam, snag (n)
• orientation: downstream, upstream (swim upstream)
• portal: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)
• power: powerhouse (n)
• presence & absence: bridgehead (n)
• progress & lack of progress: backwater (n)
• proper name: river (Niger River, etc.)
• resemblance: river (resemblance)
• route: bridge (air bridge, etc.), stream (bloodstream, etc.)
• society: mainstream
• source: fountainhead, reservoir (source), watershed (n)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (cross that bridge)

ROCKET (2)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: ballistic (go ballistic)
• increase & decrease: rocket (increase), skyrocket (increase)
• initiation: launching pad
• resemblance: rocket (resemblance)
• speed: rocket (speed)
• throwing, putting & planting: launching pad

ROLE (1)
• clothing & accessories: hat (role)
• government: diplomacy, diplomatic
• horse: saddle (acting saddle, etc.)
• theater: act (insincere show), act (performance)

ROOF (2)
• destruction: roof (a roof can cave in)
• extent & scope: roof (through the roof)
• failure, accident & impairment: roof (a roof can cave in)
• increase & decrease: roof (through the roof)
• orientation: roof (roof of the mouth, etc.)

ROPE (2)
• action, inaction & delay: Gordian knot
amelioration & renewal: straighten out (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.)
attachment: bind (connect), tethered
complexity: Gordian knot
constraint & lack of constraint: bind (constraint), bind (constrain), binding (adj), bound (constraint), slack (n)
development: play (play / play out)
division & connection: bind (connect), tie (v), tied, tie together (v)
experience: rope (learn the ropes, etc.)
feeling, emotion & effect: rope (at the end of one’s rope)
flaws & lack of flaws: kink (n)
involvement: bound up, enmeshed, entangled (involvement), string (attachment)
obstacles & impedance: knot (n), snarl (v)
reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: loose ends
rope: play (play / play out)
sequence: string (sequence)
situation: bind (in a bind), enmeshed, entangled (involvement)
survival, persistence & endurance: rope (on the ropes)

ROUTE (1)
atmosphere: skyway
blood: artery
bridge: bridge (air bridge, etc.)
direction: climb (roads, etc.)
epithet: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), alley (Bat Alley, etc.), alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), alley (Death Alley, etc.), expressway (expressway to death, etc.), road (the Silk Road, etc.)
infrastucture: alley (Ambush Alley, etc.), alley (Bat Alley, etc.), alley (Cyclone Alley, etc.), alley (Death Alley, etc.), avenue (route), bridge (air bridge, etc.), corridor (route), expressway, highway (iceberg highway, etc.), pipeline (other), superhighway
journeys & trips: pathway (route), way (route)
movement: go (a road can go, etc.)
river: bridge (air bridge, etc.), stream (bloodstream etc.)
sky: skyway
walking, running & jumping: go (a road can go, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)
water: channel (distribution channel, etc.), channel (through channels), conduit, stream (bloodstream, etc.)

ROUTE (2)
danger: way (in harm’s way), way (out of harm’s way)

ROYALTY (2)
allegiance, support & betrayal: fealty (n)
area: realm (area)
attention, scrutiny & promotion: herald (v), herald (n)
coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: herald (v), herald (n), usher in (v)
control & lack of control: ruled, usurp (v)
dismissal, removal & resignation: dethrone (v)
epithet: king (King of Beers, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.)
help & assistance: handmaiden (help)
oppression: lord over (v), reign of terror / fear, etc.
origin: house (origin)
person: handmaiden (help), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (role), whipping boy (person)
• possession: usurp (v)
• power: dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), lord over (v), overlord (person), throne (power)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dethrone (v), dynasty (sports dynasty, etc.), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), reign (n), reigning, throne (in line for the throne), throne (pretender to the throne), throne (primacy)
• proper name: Emperor (Exmoor Emperor, etc.), king (king cobra, etc.), Kingdom (Magic Kingdom, etc.), Queen (Dairy Queen, etc.), throne (Blondie’s Throne, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: castle (protection)
• punishment & recrimination: whipping boy (person)
• resemblance: palace (movie palace, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: crowned (v)
• size: palatial (adj)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: reign (v)
• superlative: aristocratic (aristocratic wine, etc.), crown (n), crown jewels, king (animals), king (King of Beers, etc.), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), prince (epithet), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role)
• taking & removing: usurp (v)
• taxonomy & classification: kingdom (animal kingdom)
• welcome: red carpet (treatment)

RUBBING & WASHING (2)
• feeling, emotion & effect: scoured
• searching & discovery: scour (v), scrape (v)
• transmission: rub off (v)

RUINS (1)
• allusion: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
• epithet: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
• place: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)

RUINS (2)
• destruction: buckle (give way), collapse (n), crash (crash down), damage (n), debris, roof (a roof can cave in), rubble (in the rubble), rubble (other), ruin (v), ruin (in ruins), ruin (road to ruin), ruined, topple (v), waste (lay waste), wreck (v), wreck (person), wreckage (n), wrecked, wrecking ball (n)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: topple (v)
• failure, accident & impairment: buckle (give way), collapse (n), roof (a roof can cave in), tumble down (v), wreck (v), wreck (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: topple (v)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: buckle (give way)

SACRIFICE (1)
• animal: lamb (sacrificial lamb)
• food & drink: belt-tightening
• religion: altar (at / on / upon the altar), sacrifice (give up something)
• sheep: lamb (sacrificial lamb)
• verb: sacrifice (give up something)

SANCTIONING, AUTHORITY & NON-CONFORMITY (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; disruption; help & assistance; judgement; unanimity & consensus)
• animal: black sheep, buck (v), maverick (person), sacred cow
• Bible: Bible (authority)
• boat: boat (rock the boat)
• center & periphery: outlier (n)
• clothing & accessories: mantle (n)
• color: green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit)
• cows & cattle: sacred cow
• creature: ghost (ghost children, etc.)
• direction: go-ahead, ground (high ground), high (on high)
• document: license (n), passport (n)
• epithet: Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East)
• face: frown (v), smile (v)
• gate: gatecrasher, gatekeeper
• gesture: frown (v), smile (v)
• government: franchise (n), license (n), passport (n)
• ground, terrain & land: ground (high ground)
• horse: buck (v)
• license: license (n)
• line: line (government line, etc.)
• manufacturing: mold (fit a mold)
• mark: rubber stamp (n), stamp (stamp of approval)
• mechanism: fit in (v)
• military: rebel (person), rebel (adj)
• person: heretic (person), iconoclast (person), maverick (person), rebel (person)
• religion: anoint (v), anointed, beatification (n), beatify (v), Bible (authority), blasphemy, blessing (sanction), canon (literature), canon (other), canonical (adj), dogma (n), enshrine (v), enshrined, excommunicated, heresy (n), heretic (person), iconoclast (n), iconoclast (person), iconoclastic (adj), imprimatur, Mormon (Mormons of the Middle East), myth (n), pantheon (n), piety (n), sacred cow, shibboleth (n), taboo (n)
• royalty: crowned (v)
• school & education: slip (permission slip)
• sea: tide (buck the tide)
• sign, signal, symbol: frown (v), green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit), seal of approval, smile (v), traffic light (n)
• sound: applaud (v)
• sports & games: ground rule, playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), playing field (level the playing field)
• ticket: pass (free pass), ticket (n)
• tide: tide (buck the tide)
• verb: anoint (v), beatify (v), buck (v), enshrine (v), frown (v), green light (v), playing field (level the playing field), sign (sign off), smile (v), tide (buck the tide)
• writing & spelling: sign (sign off)

SCALE (2)
• amelioration & renewal: counterbalance (v)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: weigh (analyze)
• cost & benefit: outweigh (cost and benefit)
• development: scale (tip the scales)
• disruption: balance (off balance)
• equilibrium & stability: balance (v), balance (out of balance), balance (off balance), balance (work & job, etc.), balance (n), balanced, balance of power, counterbalance (n), disequilibrium (n), equilibrium (n)
• fate, fortune & chance: balance (hang in the balance)
• flaws & lack of flaws: balance (off balance)
• initiation: scale (tip the scales)
• judgment: weigh (analyze)
• readiness & preparedness: balance (off balance)

**SCHOOL & EDUCATION (2)**

• ability & lack of ability: IQ (ability), study (quick study)
• achievement, recognition & praise: apple (Golden Apple)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: study (n)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
• coercion & motivation: bully (v), bully (person)
• enthusiasm: cheerlead (v), cheerleader (person)
• environment: playground
• epithet: Eaton (Eaton of Africa, etc.)
• experience: freshman (adj), schooled
• extent & scope: extracurricular
• group, set & collection: fraternity (n)
• growth & development: graduate (v)
• judgment: mark (high mark), report card
• knowledge & intelligence: IQ (ability), learn (v), lesson, masterclass, note (compare notes), schooled
• oppression: bully (v), bully (person)
• person: bully (person), cheerleader (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: old school
• past & present: new school, old school
• readiness & preparedness: homework
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: slip (permission slip)
• society: fraternity (n)
• superlative: masterclass (n)
• survival, persistence & endurance: test (test of time)

**SCRIPT (1)**

• books & reading: playbook
• food & drink: recipe
• health & medicine: prescription
• infrastructure: blueprint
• journeys & trips: road map
• map: road map
• manufacturing: boilerplate (n)
• number: formula (n)
• religion: hymnal (n)
• sports & games: playbook
• theater: script (to script)
• tools & technology: boilerplate (n)

**SEA (2) (see also tide; tsunami; wave) (see also island)**

• amelioration & renewal: tide (stem the tide, etc.)
• amount: sea (amount)
• amount & effect: floodtide, groundswell, maelstrom (in a maelstrom), maelstrom (other), sea change (n), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (on a tide), tide (rising tide), tide (other), tsunami, wave (in a wave), wave (amount & effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
• area: waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
• attraction & repulsion: pull (tidal pull)
• certainty & uncertainty: uncharted (adj), waters (uncharted waters, etc.)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: wash up (v)
• comprehension & incomprehension: fathom (v), unfathomable
• configuration: archipelago (n), pearl (string of pearls)
• control & lack of control: King Canute
• creation & transformation: sea change (n)
• danger: lighthouse, rock (on the rocks), shoal (n), waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
• decline: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb), washed-up (adj)
• destruction: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), scupper (v), scuttle (v), scuttled, shoal (n), sink (destroy), torpedo (v), torpedo (n), water (blow something out of the water)
• development: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.), wave (wave of the future, etc.)
• direction: lighthouse, sea (at sea), uncharted (adj)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: swept away (removal)
• division & connection: insular (adj)
• division & connection: gulf (division)
• environment: island (island of affluence, etc.), sea (in a sea), sea (environment)
• epithet: pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), ship (ship of state, etc.), ship (ship of the desert)
• extent & scope: high tide
• failure, accident & impairment: founder (v), rock (on the rocks), shoal (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: swept away (emotion), wave (effect)
• isolation & remoteness: castaway (person), insular (adj), marooned, shell (protection)
• movement: ebb (movement), tide (other), wave (amount and effect)
• obstacles & impedance: shoal (n)
• person: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: high tide, washed-up (adj)
• proper name: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: harbor (v), harbor (safe harbor)
• resemblance: island (beech island, etc.), lagoon, ocean, sea (sea of sand, etc.), shore (resemblance)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: tide (buck the tide)
• reversal: tide (turn the tide, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: tide (buck the tide)
• shape: wave (shape)
• society: castaway (person), marooned
• substance & lack of substance: shell (substance)
• superlative: pearl
• taking & removing: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)

SEARCHING & DISCOVERY (1) (see also appearance & disappearance; occurrence; presence & absence)
• allusion: eureka, Sherlock Holmes
• animal: expedition (fishing expedition), ferret (ferret out)
• atmosphere: rainbow (searching and discovery)
• boat: dredge up (v), trawl (v)
• burial: exhume (v)
• cloth: unfold (discover), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), unraveled
• comb: comb (v)
• death & life: exhume (v)

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 918 of 982
• direction: bottom (get to the bottom of something), come up with (discovery)
• earth & world: earth (extent)
• engine: hood (look under the hood, etc.)
• eye: look (look for), look (look into something)
• farming & agriculture: glean (v)
• fish: expedition (fishing expedition), trawl (v)
• ground, terrain & land: come up with (discovery), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dig (dig through), dig out (v), dig up (v), frontier (n), pay dirt, rock (turn over every rock, etc.), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), turned up (discovered), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unearthed
• hair: comb (v)
• hunting: expedition (fishing expedition), search (for truth, cure, etc.), track down (v)
• journeys & trips: explore (discover)
• key: unlock (v)
• light & dark: light (come to light), light (bring something to light)
• Middle Ages: quest (in a quest), quest (on a quest), quest (other)
• military: scout (n), scout (v)
• mining: dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dig (dig through), dig out, dig up, eureka, gold (strike gold), mine (search), mining (data, etc.), pay dirt, unearth (v), unearthed
• money: treasure trove (and trove)
• object: search (n)
• person: scout (n), talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
• rubbing & washing: scour (v), scrape (v)
• sky: rainbow (searching and discovery)
• smell: sniff out (v)
• theater: talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
• tools & technology: needle (needle in a haystack), rake up (v), sift (searching), sifted
• verb: comb (v), come up with (discovery), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dig out (v), dig (dig through), dredge up (v), exhume (v), explore (discover), ferret (ferret out), glean (v), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), look (look for), look (look into something), mine (search), rake up (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scour (v), scout (v), scrape (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), sift (searching), sniff out (v), stumble (stumble across / on / upon), track down (v), trawl (v), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unfold (discover), unlock (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), winnow (v)
• walking, running & jumping: stumble (stumble across / on / upon)
• water: sound (measure)
• wheat: winnow (v)

SEASON (2)
• decline: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
• destruction: winter (nuclear winter, etc.)
• development: season (time)
• growth & development: spring (growth)
• love, courtship & marriage: summer
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: autumn (in the autumn), winter (decline)
• resemblance: winter (resemblance)
• time: season (time)

SENSATION (1)
• animal: biting, gnaw (v), gnawing
• fire: burning (burning desire, etc.), seared, searing (adj)
• insect: sting (n)
• knife: stab (sensation), stabbing (stabbing pain, etc.)
• mark: seared
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: sore (sensation)
• sound: buzz (sensation)
• teeth: biting, gnaw (v), gnawing
• verb: gnaw (v)

**SENSATION (2)**
• affliction: gall (v), irritant (n), irritated, needle (v), neck (pain in the neck), pinch (n), prick (v), shoe (a stone in the shoe)
• amelioration & renewal: soothe (sensation)
• character & personality: abrasive (adj), irritating
• consciousness & awareness: numb (adj)
• disruption: toe (step on toes)
• eagerness & reluctance: itchy
• enthusiasm: itch (enthusiasm)
• feeling, emotion & effect: abrasive (adj), blistering, blow (bitter blow, etc.), bruise (v), bruised, bruising (adj), burned (hurt), burning (burning desire, etc.), caustic (adj), corrosive (adj), grate (v), gut-wrenching (adj), heartache, heartfelt, heartthrob, heart-wrenching, hurt (feeling and emotion), irritant, irritated, irritating, irritation, numb (adj), painful (adj), pinch (n), raw (adj), rub (rub somebody the wrong way), sensitive (adj), shoe (a stone in the shoe), smart (v), soothe (sensation), sore (sensation), stinging (adj), stoic (adj), stunned (feeling), stunning (adj), stung (feeling), thick-skinned, thin-skinned, toe (step on toes), wrenching (adj)
• money: tight (money)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: heartfelt (adj)
• speech: caustic (adj), caustically, needle (v)

**SEQUENCE (1)**
• boat: wake (in the wake)
• boxing: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), punch (beat somebody to the punch)
• chain: chain (chain of events), chain (other), chain reaction
• clock: tick-tock (n)
• epithet: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
• heel: heel (on the heels)
• leg: leg (first leg, etc.)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: next (next Steve Jobs, etc.)
• rope: string (sequence)
• sound: tick-tock (n)
• sports & games: domino (n), domino (domino effect)
• time: tick-tock (n)
• train: train (in one's train)
• verb: jump (jump ahead), punch (beat somebody to the punch), step (step back / sequence)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (jump ahead), step (first step, etc.), step (step back / sequence), walk (crawl, walk, run)
• water: wake (in the wake)

**SEX (1)**
• allusion: Casanova
• animal: stud (n)
• bedroom: bedroom (sex)
• bird: (the birds and the bees)
• clothing & accessories: pants (get in somebody's pants)
• epithet: Casanova
• horse: stud (n)
• hygiene: dirty (sex), filthy (sex)
• insect: bee (the birds and the bees)
• mechanism: machine (sex machine)
• temperature: steamy
• tools & technology: hookup (sex)
• verb: pants (get in somebody's pants)

SEX (2)
• attraction & repulsion: alluring (adj), seductive (adj)
• control & lack of control: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately
• eagerness & reluctance: slut (enthusiasm)
• enthusiasm: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately, slut (enthusiasm)
• experience: coming (coming out), debutant (n)
• euphemism: bedroom (sex), bee (the birds and the bees)
• experience: maiden (adj), virgin (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: passion (enthusiasm), passionate, passionately
• restraint & lack of restraint: orgy
• speech: pander (v)
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: lust (n), pander (v)

SHADOW (2)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
• attenuation: shadow (devitalized)
• certainty & uncertainty: shadow (beyond a shadow of a doubt, etc.)
• concealment & lack of concealment: shadow (concealment), shadowy
• configuration: shadow (rain shadow, etc.)
• corruption: shady (adj)
• division & connection: daylight (division)
• feeling, emotion & effect: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under a shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
• oppression: cloud (under a cloud), cloud (cast a cloud), cloud (dark cloud, etc.), shadow (cast a shadow), shadow (in / under the shadow), shadow (dark shadow, etc.)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: overshadow (v)
• proximity: shadow (proximity), shadow (follow)
• repetition: shadow (mirror)
• substance & lack of substance: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
• superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
• subterfuge: shady (adj)

SHAPE (1)
• animal: dogleg (shape), horn (shape), plume (shape), web (spider web, etc.)
• arm: elbow (shape)
• astronomy: star (shape)
• bell: bell curve (shape)
• bird: beak (area), plume (shape)
• blade: knife-edged, sickle (shape)
• bullet: bullet (shape)
• canal: canal (birth canal, etc.)
• clock: hourglass (shape)
• cloth: needle (shape), ribbon (Ribbon Reef, etc.)
• clothing & accessories: washboard
• creature: angel (snow angel)
• dog: dogleg (shape)
• eye: eye (the Eye of Kuruman, etc.)
• fan: fan (shape)
• food & drink: pancake (pancake ice, etc.)
• fortification: castle (sand castle)
• ground, terrain & land: contour (n)
• hand: handle (shape)
• hair: hairpin (shape)
• heart: heart (shape)
• horn: horn (shape)
• horse: saddle (shape), spur (shape)
• infrastructure: canal (birth canal, etc.), pipe (sports), pipeline (shape)
• insect: butterfly (shape), web (spider web, etc.)
• knife: knife-edged
• meat: T-bone (v), T-boned
• mechanism: hub (center)
• mountains & hills: peak (other), plateau (n), valley
• neck: neck (area)
• nose: nose (shape)
• readiness & preparedness: curve (behind / ahead of the curve)
• religion: angel (snow angel)
• route: alley
• sea: wave (shape)
• spider: (web (spider web, etc.)
• stair: stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.), step (shape)
• star: star (shape)
• table: table (Table Mountain, etc.)
• target: bull’s-eye (shape)
• throat: throat (resemblance)
• tools & technology: hourglass (shape)
• water: funnel (water), wave (shape)
• wave: wave (shape)
• weapon: bullet (shape), bull's-eye (shape)

SHAPE (2)
• area: beak (area), belt (area), corridor (area), horn, neck (area), panhandle (area), triangle (area)
• bullet: bullet (shape)
• configuration: ringed (circled)
• conflict & lack of conflict: vicious circle
• development: circle (a circle can close), circle (full circle)
• direction: corkscrew (v), corkscrew (shape)
• failure, accident & impairment: T-bone (v), T-boned
• feeling, emotion & effect: vicious circle
• hierarchy: pyramid (hierarchy)
• increase & decrease: bump (increase), plateau (n), plateau (v), spike (increase), spike (spike in business, etc.)
• knowledge & intelligence: loop (in the loop)
• movement: corkscrew (v), fan out (v)
• obstacle & impedance: bottleneck, hump (n)
• progress & lack of progress: trough (n)
• relationship: triangle (things), triangle (people)
• sequence: vicious circle
• speed: streamline (speed up)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: curve (behind / ahead of the curve), streamline (speed up)

**SHARK** (2)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: shark (throw someone to the sharks)
• predation: circle (predation), loan shark, shark (predation)

**SHEEP (2)** (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)
• acceptance & rejection: fold (to / into the fold)
• behavior: flock (v)
• character & personality: black sheep
• consciousness & awareness: sheep (consciousness)
• directing: shepherd (v)
• direction: bellwether
• growth & development: lamb
• sacrifice: lamb (sacrificial lamb)
• society: fold (to / into the fold)
• taking & removing: fleeced

**SHOULDER** (2)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
• bases: shoulder (stand on somebody's shoulders)
• empathy & lack of empathy: shoulder (a shoulder to cry on)
• oppression: shoulder (oppression)
• responsibility: shoulder (fall on the shoulders), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.)
• surveillance: shoulder (look over somebody's shoulder)
• unanimity & consensus: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
• work & duty: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone)

**SIGHT** (1)
• eye: blind (hard to see, hidden), blind date, blinding, blind side (from the blind side), eye (v), eye (sight), eyeball (sight)
• verb: eye (v)

**SIGN, SIGNAL, SYMBOL** (2) (see also representation)
• achievement, recognition & praise: badge (badge of honor), medal (n), trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: marquee (attention)
• bases: ship (ship of state, etc.)
• death & life: blood (blood represents life), cradle (symbol), grave (symbol), night (death)
• danger: zone (red zone, etc.)
• evidence: sign (n), signal (v), signpost
• judgment: frown (v), smile (v)
• money: treasure (money)
• place: bowl (Vietnam’s rice bowl, etc.), breadbasket (Pakistan’s breadbasket, etc.)
• relationship: triangle (things), triangle (people)
• religion: icon (graphic), icon (symbol), iconic
• representation: poster (poster child, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: frown (v), green light (n), green light (v), green-lighted (and green-lit), seal of approval, smile (v), traffic light (n)
• superlative: trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.)
• warning: red flag, sign (warning sign)

SINCERITY, LACK OF SINCERITY & HONESTY (1)
• book (open book)
• cards: card (cards on the table)
• direction: crooked, straight (honest)
• face: face (concept)
• gambling: card (cards on the table)
• heart: heart (sincerity), heartfelt (adj), heart-to-heart
• mouth: mouth (speech), mouthpiece (n)
• sensation: heartfelt (adj)
• speech: lip service (pay lip service, etc.)
• sports & games: card (cards on the table)

SITUATION (1) (see also environment)
• allusion: Dantesque (adj), frog (frog in boiling water)
• animal: doghouse (in the doghouse), frog (frog in boiling water), web (situation)
• boat (in the same boat)
• body: lap (lap of luxury)
• breadth: strait (dire straits, etc.)
• container: bind (in a bind), box (situation), get out (escape), jam (situation), lap (lap of luxury), limbo (in limbo), out (want out), spot (in a tight spot, etc.), spot (tight spot, etc.), strait (dire straits, etc.), trap (Chinese finger trap), trouble (in trouble), way (way out / escape), web (situation)
• corner: corner (situation)
• dog: doghouse (in the doghouse)
• explosion: time bomb (ticking time bomb, etc.)
• frog: frog (frog in boiling water)
• ground, terrain & land: room (wiggle room), spot (in a tight spot, etc.), spot (tight spot, etc.), trapped
• hand: hold (on hold)
• hole: hole (situation)
• heating water: hot water (in hot water), hot water (into hot water)
• hygiene: mess (n)
• infrastructure: maze (other)
• insect: web (situation)
• light & dark: twilight (in a legal twilight, etc.)
• materials & substances: sticky (a sticky situation, etc.)
• position: middle (in the middle)
• pressure: crunch (crunch time), trap (Chinese finger trap)
• religion: Dantesque (adj), hell (living hell, etc.), hell (situation), limbo (in limbo), purgatory (n)
• rope: bind (in a bind), enmeshed, entangled (involvement)
• route: way (in harm’s way)
• space: room (opportunity)
• spider: web (situation)
• sports & games: ballgame (new ballgame), game (situation)
• temperature: frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water), hot water (into hot water)
• tools & technology: jam (situation), vise (pressure)
• verb: out (want out)
• water: deep (in deep), frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water), hot water (into hot water), water (deep water)

SIZE (1)
• allusion: behemoth, Brobdignagian, colossal (adj), gargantuan (size), Goliath (Bible), leviathan, Lilliputian (adj), Olympian (adj), Pharaonic (adj), spartan (adj)
• animal: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow, mouse (size)
• astronomy: astronomical
• atmosphere: skyscraper
• Bible: behemoth, Goliath (Bible), leviathan (n)
• breadth: narrow (breadth), razor (razor-thin), thin (breadth)
• clothing & accessories: seam (burst at the seams)
• creature: behemoth, giant (size), leviathan (n), monster (size), titan (n)
• epithet: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• fatness & thinness: bloated (size), lean (size), slender (adj), slim (small)
• fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n)
• flags & banners: banner (size)
• heart: bighearted
• history: Pharaonic (adj)
• mountains & hills: mountainous (adj), Mount Everest (and Everest), Olympian (adj)
• person: dwarf (size), pygmy (size)
• place: Mount Everest (and Everest)
• religion: behemoth, Goliath (Bible), leviathan, Olympian (adj)
• royalty: palatial (adj)
• sky: skyscraper (tall building)
• standing, sitting & lying: sprawling (adj)
• statue: colossal (adj)

SIZE (2)
• achievement, recognition & praise: giant (achievement), titan (n)
• amount: grain (grain of truth)
• commitment & determination: go (go big)
• corruption: stunted
• consciousness & awareness: giant (sleeping giant)
• decline: shrink (decline)
• extent & scope: go (go big), small-minded
• growth & development: stunted
• heart: bighearted
• importance & significance: big (big name, etc.), colossus (n), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (achievement), minnow (n), potato (small potatoes), titan (n), towering (towering figure, etc.)
• increase & decrease: big (v), shrink (downsize), swell (v)
• mind: small-minded
• power: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), giant (sleeping giant), minnow (n)
• strength & weakness: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), puny
**SKELETON (2)**
- concealment & lack of concealment: skeleton (skeleton in the closet)
- resemblance: skeleton (resemblance)
- substance & lack of substance: skeleton (substance)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)

**SKIN, MUSCLE, NERVES & BONE (2) (see also health & medicine; wounds & scars)**
- appearance & reality: skin-deep
- attenuation: atrophy (v)
- condition & status: atrophy (v)
- conflict: war of nerves
- constraint & lack of constraint: hidebound
- control & lack of control: flinch (v), knee-jerk (adj), reflex (n), twitch (quick-twitch)
- courage & lack of courage: nerve (courage)
- destruction: lacerate (v)
- effect: nerve (strike a nerve, etc.)
- euphemism: skin (save one’s skin)
- extent & scope: skin-deep, surface (scratch the surface)
- failure, accident & impairment: strain (v), stretch (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: nerve (anxiety), nerve (strike a nerve, etc.), nerveless (adj), nerve-racking, skin (feeling), skin (jump out of one’s skin), sore (sensation), thick-skinned, thin-skinned, touchy (adj)
- flaws & lack of flaws: strain (pressure), strained, stretch (v)
- force: muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (v)
- functioning: atrophy (v)
- hyperbole: skin (jump out of one’s skin)
- identity & nature: bone (racist bone, etc.)
- orientation: flesh (inside), skin (outside)
- power: flex (muscle, etc.), muscle (political muscle, etc.), muscle (v)
- proximity: bone (close to the bone, etc.)
- resemblance: flesh (inside), skeleton (resemblance)
- sensation: sore (sensation)
- substance & lack of substance: flesh and blood, flesh out (v), fleshted out, skeleton, skin-deep
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: bare-bones, skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)
- survival, persistence & endurance: skin (save one’s skin)
- work & duty: strain (v)

**SKY (2) (see also air; atmosphere; wind)**
- appearance & disappearance: air (into thin air), air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.), nowhere (out of nowhere), sky (a clear blue sky, etc.)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: skyrocket (to attention, etc.)
- color: rainbow (color)
- experience: horizon (expand one’s horizons)
- extent & scope: horizon (extent and scope), sky-high
- fate, fortune & chance: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate), sky (the sky can fall)
- feeling, emotion & effect: afterglow (in the afterglow), afterglow (other)
- future: horizon (on the horizon)
- increase & decrease: skyrocket (increase)
- mixture: rainbow (mixture)
• occurrence: blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• origin: air (out of thin air), blue (out of the blue, etc.)
• proper name: rainbow (Rainbow Falls, etc.)
• route: skyway
• searching & discovery: rainbow (searching and discovery)
• size: skyscraper (tall building)

**SLEEP (2)**
- action, inaction & delay: nap (n)
- activity: restlessness, sleepy, wake (resemblance)
- consciousness & awareness: asleep (adj), asleep (at the switch, etc.), awake (adj), awaken (awareness), awakening, nap (n), sleeping, sleepwalking, slumber (n), wake up (v), wake (wake-up call), woke (adj)
- control & lack of control: asleep (at the switch, etc.)
- feeling, emotion & effect: nightmare (n), nightmare (worst nightmare), nightmarish (adj), tired (adj), weary (condition)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bed (put something to bed), rest (put something to rest), sleep (put something to sleep)
- resemblance: awaken (nature, etc.), sleep (n), wake (resemblance)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: bed (put something to bed), rest (put something to rest)
- verb: rest (put something to rest)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: dream (n), dream (v)
- warning: wake (wake-up call)

**SMELL (2)**
- conflict: stink (raise a stink)
- corruption: cesspool, miasma, noxious (adj), stink (v)
- evidence: rat (smell a rat), wind (get / catch wind of something), smell (evidence), sniff out (v), stench (n), whiff (n)
- feeling, emotion & effect: noxious (adj)
- searching & discovery: sniff out (v)
- subterfuge: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
- suspicion: rat (smell a rat), smell (suspicion)

**SNAIL (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snake; tiger; vulture; wolf)**
- speed: snail mail, snail (at a snail's pace), snail (snail's pace / other)

**SNAKE (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; tiger; vulture; wolf)**
- attenuation: defang (v)
- character & personality: snake (character)
- conflict: snake pit
- danger: snake pit
- environment: snake pit
- fate, fortune & chance: snake (snake-bit)
- feeling, emotion & effect: venom (n), venomous
- fictive motion: snake (a trail can snake)
- force: defang (v)
- movement: snake (a trail can snake)
- person: snake (character)
• resemblance: snake (a trail can snake)
• speech: venom (n), venous
• strength & weakness: defang (v)

**SNOW & ICE (2) (see also glacier)**
• access & lack of access: freeze (assets, etc.)
• activity: freeze (v), freeze (activity), frozen (activity)
• amelioration & renewal: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
• amount & effect: avalanche (n), blizzard (n), hail (in a hail), hail (n)
• appearance & disappearance: melt away
• appearance & reality: iceberg (tip of the iceberg)
• character & personality: snowflake (person)
• consciousness & awareness: blizzard (consciousness)
• constraint & lack of constraint: ice (put on ice)
• creation & transformation: calve (v)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: sledding (tough sledding)
• division & connection: ice (break the ice)
• fate, fortune & chance: ice (on thin ice)
• feeling, emotion & effect: frosty (adj), ice (break the ice), ice-cold
• functioning: freeze (computers, etc.)
• growth & development: frozen (development)
• inclusion & exclusion: frozen out (excluded)
• increase & decrease: snowball (v), snowball (snowball effect)
• movement: freeze (position of body), frozen (movement)
• person: snowflake (person)
• strength & weakness: snowflake (person)
• substance & lack of substance: iceberg (tip of the iceberg)

**SOCIAL INTERACTION (1) (see also society)**
• back: back (scratch somebody's back)
• ball: ball (ball in somebody's court)
• direction: go (go along)
• eye: see (visit / meet)
• face: face (concept), face-saving
• foot: kickback
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: give-and-take
• infrastructure: street (two-way street)
• journeys & trips: go (go along)
• mechanism: wheel (grease the wheels)
• movement: go (go along)
• person: hermit (person)
• position: side (on the good side, etc.), side (on the wrong side, etc.)
• sports & games: ball (play ball), ball (ball in somebody's court), game (social interaction)
• tools & technology: connect (v), hook up (relationship)
• verb: back (scratch somebody's back), ball (play ball), connect (v), go (go along), see (visit / meet), wheel (grease the wheels)

**SOCIETY (1) (see also social interaction)**
• animal: lone wolf, rogue (n)
• body: body politic
• center & periphery: center (society), fringe (on the fringe), fringe (versus mainstream), inner circle (n), insider (person), mainstream, margin (on the margins), outlier (n), outsider (person)
• cloth: fringe (on the fringe)
• direction: netherworld (n), underground, underworld
• gate: gate (society)
• ground, terrain & land: exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, shore (far shore), wilderness (in the wilderness), wilderness (society)
• health & medicine: leper (person)
• infrastructure: square (public square), street (society)
• island: castaway (person), island (society), marooned
• person: castaway (person), caste, hermit (person), insider (person), leper (person), mob (society), outcast (person), outsider (person), pariah (n), untouchable (person)
• river: mainstream
• school & education: fraternity (n)
• sea: castaway (person), marooned
• sheep: fold (to / into the fold)
• speech: square (public square)
• throwing, putting & planting: castaway (person), outcast (person)
• walking, running & jumping: life (from walks of life), life (in walks of life), life (walks of life)
• wolf: lone wolf

SOCIETY (2)
• acceptance & rejection: banished, banishment (n), blackball (v), blacklist (v), exile (in exile), exile (n), exiled, leper (person), ostracized (society), outcast (person), shun (v), shunned, untouchable (person), wilderness (in the wilderness), wilderness (society)
• control & lack of control: gatekeeper
• dismissal, removal & resignation: banished, banishment (n), exile (in exile), exile (n), outcast (person), wilderness (in the wilderness), wilderness (society)
• division & connection: caste
• hierarchy: caste, untouchable (person)
• oppression: blackball (v), blacklist (v)
• person: castaway (person), hermit (person), leper (person), outcast (person), pariah (person), untouchable (person)

SOUND (1)
• animal: bark (v), gallop (n), growl (v), howl (v), roar (n), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), whining
• atmosphere: drift (sound)
• bell: ring out (a shot rang out, etc.)
• dog: bark (v)
• explosion: explosion (sound)
• horse: gallop (n)
• insect: buzz (sound), cricket (n)
• message: drum (beat / bang the drum)
• music: opera, symphony
• speech: rail (v), whisper (sound)
• storm: thunder (sound), thunderous
• symphony: symphony (n)
• verb: bark (v), drown out (v), growl (v), howl (v), ring out (a shot rang out, etc.), snarl (speech), squeal (protest)
• water: drown out (v), drowned out
SOUND (2)

- accusation & criticism: boo (n), rail (v)
- achievement, recognition & praise: cheer (n), cheer (cheer on)
- activity: abuzz, boom (increase), chatter (data), hum (hum along), hum (n), noise (data), quiet (adj), static (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: cheer (cheer on)
- amount & effect: crescendo (n), drip (drip-drip), uproar (controversy)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: chatter (data), din (n), noise (data), signal (other), static (n)
- appeal: call (call to arms)
- attempt: crack (attempt)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: bang (with a bang), big bang (in a big bang), blaring (headlines, etc.), buzz (attention), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, drum up (v), teapot (internet teapot, etc.), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v)
- character & personality: whiner (person)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: last hurrah, roar back (v), swan song
- conflict: clamor (v), clash (n), clash (v), fireworks (conflict), growl (v), outcry (n), uproar (controversy)
- cost & benefit: bang (bang for the buck)
- creation & transformation: drum up
- death & life: heartbeat (n), heart (beating heart)
- decline: knell (death knell)
- destruction: knell (death knell)
- disruption: rattle (disrupt), tumult (disruption)
- effect: chord (strike a chord), repercussion (n), reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
- evidence: chord (resemblance)
- feeling, emotion & effect: alarm (feeling), bang (with a bang), bang (bang for the buck), echo (verb / effect), echo (noun / effect), chord (strike a chord), note (on a note), note (note of caution, etc.), repercussion (n), resonate (v), reverberate (v), reverberation (n), thunderstruck (adj)
- functioning: click (v), hum (v), sputter (v)
- importance & significance: keynote (n)
- increase & decrease: amplify (v), amplified
- involvement: chime in (v)
- judgment: boo (n), cheer (n)
- message: call (call to arms), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, saber rattling, signal (other), whistle (dog whistle)
- obstacles & impedance: chatter (data), din (n), noise (data), static (n)
- perception, perspective & point of view: ring (ring false, etc.), ring (ring of truth, etc.), sound (perception)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: knell (death knell)
- repetition: echo (verb / effect), echo (repeat), echo (in an echo), echo chamber, echoed
- resemblance: roar (n), symphony (n), whisper (sound)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: grumble (n), howl (v), squeal (protest)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: applaud (v)
- sensation: buzz (sensation)
- sequence: tick-tock (n)
- sound: tick-tock (n)
- speech: chime in (v), growl (v), howl (v), rail (v), ring out (voice), squeal (protest), thunder (speech), whistle (dog whistle)
- speed: finger (in the snap of a finger), zip (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: knell (death knell), last hurrah, silent (fall silent), swan song, tick on (v)
- sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
• transmission: echo (repeat), echo chamber, echoed, reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
• warning: alarm (warning), bell (warning), whistle (blow the whistle), whistleblower

**SOURCE (1) (see also origin)**

• dam: reservoir (source)
• fountain: fountain (source), fountainhead
• ground, terrain & land: aquifer (n)
• mining: gold mine, mother lode, vein (source)
• river: fountainhead, reservoir (source), watershed (n)
• water: aquifer (n), fountain (source), fountainhead, reservoir (source), well (source), wellspring

**SPACE (2)**

• constraint & lack of constraint: room (opportunity), room (space)
• situation: room (opportunity)
• mind: mind (area)

**SPEECH (1) (see also accusation & criticism)**

• achievement, recognition & praise: ode (praise)
• allusion: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), pander (v)
• animal: badger (v), bark (v), growl (v), howl (v), savage (v), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), venom (n), venomous (adj), whining
• bird: crow (v)
• blade: blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
• bodily process: spew (vomit)
• boxing: blow-by-blow (a blow-by-blow account, etc.), come (come out swinging), jab (n), punch (pull a punch)
• chemistry: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically
• container: open up (emotions, speech, etc.)
• cooking: mince (v), roast (v), skewer (v), skewered
• direction: shooter (straight shooter), straight-talking
• dog: bark (v)
• family: mother tongue
• film: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n)
• fire: coal (rake somebody over the coals), combustible, grill (v), incendiary (speech), inflammatory (adj), roast (v)
• fist: bash (v), bashing (n)
• force: lay (lay into)
• functioning: broken (English, etc.)
• geometry: tangent (on a tangent)
• hardness & softness: soften (speech)
• health & medicine: bromide (n)
• hygiene: clean up (speech), dirty word
• knife: blunt (speech), cut off (speech), sharp (speech), sharp-tongued
• mark: smear (v), smear (n)
• materials & substances: acid (acid debate, etc.), acid-tongued, caustic (adj), caustically, crude (adj), silver (speech), silver-tongued, vitriol (n)
• mental health: rave (v)
• mouth: lip (speech), lip service (pay lip service, etc.), mouth (speech), mouthpiece (n), mouthy (adj), muzzle (v)
• person: loudmouth (person)
• predation: savage (v)
• religion: pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v)
• sensation: caustic (adj), caustically, needle (v)
• sex: pander (v)
• snake: venom (n), venomous (adj)
• sound: chime in (v), growl (v), howl (v), ring out (voice), squeal (protest), thunder (speech), whistle (dog whistle)
• sports & games: cheap shot, punch (punch a punch)
• storm: thunder (speech)
• taste: honey-tongued, salty (language), smooth (speech), talk (sweet talk)
• temperature: combustible, fiery (speech), incendiary (speech)
• throat: throat (jump down someone’s throat)
• tools & technology: retort (speech)
• tongue: acid-tongued, honey-tongued, sharp-tongued, silver-tongued, tongue (bite one’s tongue), tongue (hold one’s tongue), tongue-lashing
• verb: badger (v), bark (v), bash (v), blast (v), chime in (v), clean up (speech), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crow (v), cut off (speech), fire (fire back), gaslight (v), grill (v), growl (v), gush (v), howl (v), jump (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mince (v), muzzle (v), needle (v), pander (v), pontificate (v), preach (v), proselytize (v), rail (v), rave (v), ring out (voice), roast (v), savage (v), snarl (speech), squeal (protest), shoot (speech), shoot (shoot back), skewer (v), slam (v), smear (v), snarl (speech), snipe (v), soften (speech), spew (vomit), spill (speech), squeal (protest), stumble (stumble over one’s words), tar (tar and feather, etc.), throat (jump down someone’s throat), thunder (speech), tongue (hold one’s tongue), tongue (bite one’s tongue), tongue (lose one’s tongue)
• violence: assassination (character assassination), bash (v), bashing (n), cheap shot, lash out (v), lay (lay into), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (speech), stumble (stumble over one's words)
• waste: talk (trash talk) brag
• water: gush (v), spill (speech)
• weapon: blast (v), broadside (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire), fire (fire back), fusillade (n), salvo (n), shoot (shoot back), shooter (straight shooter), shot (criticism), shot (parting shot), snipe (v), sniping (n), volley (n)
• whip: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)

SPEECH (2)
• ability & lack of ability: mute (speech)
• accusation & criticism: assassination (character assassination), callout (criticism), rail (v)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: parse (v), talk (talk somebody through something), tell (data can tell us something, etc.)
• appeal: call (appeal), call for (v), cry (cry for help), cry (v), cry out (v), outcry (n), speak (speak to something)
• attenuation: tone down (v)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: pitch (promote)
• attraction & repulsion: invite (v), invitation (n), inviting
• character & personality: loudmouth (person)
• coercion & motivation: cudgel (n), goad (v)
• comprehension & incomprehension: Aha! (Aha! moment), joke (you must be joking, etc.)
• conflict: fireworks (conflict)
• consciousness & awareness: Aha! (Aha moment)
• constraint & lack of constraint: gag (n), loose (let loose), muffled
• control & lack of control: tongue (hold one’s tongue)
• creation & transformation: translate (v)
• danger: tongue (danger)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
• directing: goad (v)
• enthusiasm: pitch (promote)
• evidence: hint (n), speak (evidence), suggest (indicate), suggestion, telling
• failure, accident & impairment: tongue (slip of the tongue)
• feeling, emotion & effect: saccharine (adj)
• fictive communication: address (v), call for (a recipe can call for something), invite (v), language (of sports, cars, etc.), say (a sign can say something, etc.), scream (scream “premium,” etc.), speak (speak to something), suggest (indicate), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), time (time will tell), warn (a sign can warn, etc.)
• flaws & lack of flaws: broken (English, etc.), note (right note), pitch-perfect (adj), stumble (stumble over one’s words), tin-eared (adj), tone-deaf (adj)
• functioning: tongue (lose one’s tongue)
• future: time (time will tell)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: command (deserve and get)
• help & assistance: thanks (n)
• inclusion & exclusion: square (public square)
• insult: joke (it’s a joke, etc.), punchline (joke), talk (trash talk)
• judgment: callout (criticism), speak (the people have spoken, etc.)
• message: preach (v), pulpit (bully pulpit, etc.), sermon (message), voice (voice of reason), voice (message)
• oppression: cudgel (n), goad (v)
• perception, perspective & point of view: greet (v), greeted
• punishment & recrimination: flog (criticize)
• representation: voice (representation)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: speak out (v), speak up (v)
• restraint & lack of restraint: punch (pull a punch)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: lip service (pay lip service, etc.)
• society: square (public square)
• sound: whisper (sound)
• unanimity & consensus: voice (speak with a single voice)
• worth & lack of worth: joke (it’s a joke, etc.)

**SPEED (1)**

• animal: breakneck (adj), galloping, sluggish (adj), snail mail, snail (at a snail’s pace), snail (snail’s pace / other)
• astronomy: meteoric (adj)
• baby (baby steps)
• bullet: bullet (velocity)
• day: overnight
• engine: downshift (v), gas (take one’s foot off the gas), turbocharge (v)
• eye: blink (in the blink of an eye)
• foot: pace (at a pace), pace (speed)
• glacier: glacial
• heart: heartbeat (in a heartbeat)
• horse: breakneck (adj), galloping
• journeys & trips: plod (v)
• lightning: lightning
• mechanism: brake (control), speed (up to speed), wheel (wheels turn slowly, etc.)
• movement: accelerate (v), brake (control), lethargic (adj), plod (v), slow (adj), sluggish (adj), speed (up to speed)
• rocket: rocket (speed)
• shape: streamline (speed up)
• snail: snail mail, snail (at a snail's pace), snail (snail's pace / other)
• sound: finger (in the snap of a finger), zip (v)
• storm: lightning (adj)
• train: track (fast track)
• verb: accelerate (v), dart (dart about), downshift (v), plod (v), race (hurry), rocket (speed), streamline (speed up), turbocharge (v), zip (v)
• walking, running & jumping: crawl (speed), crawl (n), leap (leaps and bounds), pace (at a pace), pace (speed), plod (v), race (hurry)
• weapon: dart (dart about), bullet (velocity)

SPIDER (2)
• concealment & lack of concealment: hole (spider hole)
• creation & transformation: web (spin a web)
• involvement: web (entanglement)
• place: hole (spider hole)
• shape: web (spider web, etc.)
• situation: web (situation)
• subterfuge: web (spin a web)

SPORTS & GAMES (2) (see also baseball; basketball; boxing; cards; chess; gambling; wrestling)
• ability & lack of ability: Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.)
• accusation & criticism: game (blame game, etc.), pile-on (n), take down (v), takedown (n)
• achievement, recognition & praise: lap (victory lap), track record
• action, inaction & delay: fall (ball in somebody’s court), tackle (v), waiting game
• allegiance, support & betrayal: bat (go to bat for somebody), win over (v)
• amelioration & renewal: playing field (level the playing field)
• appearance: game (game face)
• appearance & disappearance: left field (out of left field)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: ball (take one's eye off the ball)
• avoidance & separation: end run (n)
• behavior: cheap shot, free-for-all (control)
• center & periphery: sideline (on the sideline), sideline (other)
• certainty & uncertainty: game (guessing game), slam-dunk
• character & personality: card (hold one’s cards close)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: merry-go-round, musical chairs
• commitment & determination: full-court press, game (game face), home run (swinging for a home run, etc.)
• competition: contest (n), dust (leave somebody in the dust), football (n), front-runner, game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), lose out (v), pace-setter, race (arms race), race (competition), race (race against time, etc.), winner (n)
• computer: surf (computers)
• concealment & lack of concealment: card (cards on the table), hold (close hold, etc.), tip (tip one’s hand), vest (play something close to the vest)
• configuration: jigsaw puzzle (n)
• conflict: arena (in / inside the arena), blood sport (n), football (n), hitter (heavy hitter), match (death match), tug of war
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: ball (ball in somebody’s court), end run (n), field (v), grapple (v), juggle (v), juggling, tackle (v), wrestle (v)
• consciousness & awareness: ball (take one’s eye off the ball), game (get one's head into the game)
• constraint & lack of constraint: box (box somebody into a corner)
• control & lack of control: check (in check), free-for-all (control), pawn (n)
• decline: race (race to the bottom)
• development: game (game-changer), homestretch (n), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), roller coaster (development)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: bar (bar is set high, etc.), full-court press, home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops), marathon (effort), slam-dunk, softball (n)
• directing: coach (v)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: bench (v)
• disruption: game (game-changer)
• driving force: pace-setter
• eagerness & reluctance: gun (jump the gun)
• epithet: Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.)
• experience: varsity (n)
• failure, accident & impairment: ball (drop the ball), baton (drop; the baton), belly flop (n), fumble (v), fumble (n), fumbled, goal (own goal), miscue (n), overplay (v), strike out (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: card (in the cards), card (dealt cards), deck (deck is stacked), draw (luck of the draw), gamble (v), gamble (n), game (guessing game), Hail Mary, roulette (n), wheel (spin of the wheel, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: domino (n), domino (domino effect)
• flaws & lack of flaws: level (fairness), playing field (uneven playing field, etc.)
• group, set & collection: all-star (adj), scrum (reporters), team (dream team), varsity (n)
• importance & significance: big-league, game (game-changer)
• increase & decrease: roller coaster (development), yo-yo (up and down)
• involvement: game (in / into the game), sideline (on the sideline), sideline (other), weigh in (v)
• judgment: call (close call), call (the right call)
• obstacle & impedance: end run (n), hoop (jump through hoops), hurdle (n)
• performance: charade (n), game (project, scheme, plan)
• position, policy & negotiation: ball (ball in somebody’s court), hardball (n)
• power: pawn (n)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: lose out (v)
• punishment & recrimination: one-strike-and-you’re-out
• pursuit, capture & escape: game (game of hide and seek, etc.), game (game of cat and mouse, etc.), hide-and-seek
• resistance, opposition & defeat: checkmate (n), Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• responsibility: plate (step up to the plate)
• restraint & lack of restraint: no-holds-barred, punch (pull a punch)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: ground rule, playing field (uneven playing field, etc.), playing field (level the playing field)
• script: playbook
• sequence: domino (n), domino (domino effect)
• sincerity, lack of sincerity & honesty: card (cards on the table)
• situation: ballgame (new ballgame), game (situation)
• social interaction: ball (play ball), ball (ball in somebody’s court), game (social interaction)
• speech: cheap shot, punch (pull a punch)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: baton (pass on the baton), follow-through (investigation, etc.), homestretch (n), kick off (v), line (starting line), start (running start), tee off (v)
• strategy: card (play one’s cards), card (guilt card, etc.), end run (n), gambit (n), gamble (n), gamble (v), game (chess game), game (numbers game), move (chess move, etc.), waiting game
• strength & weakness: card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards), pawn (n)
• substance & lack of substance: charade (n)
• subterfuge: charade (n), end run (n), game (game the system, etc.), game (project, scheme, plan)
• success & failure: goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line), grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), loser (n), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), streak (winning streak), strike out (v), winner (n)
• superlative: all-star (adj), Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), Super Bowl, team (dream team)
• survival, persistence & endurance: game (game of life, etc.)
• target: goalpost (target)
• taxonomy & classification: ballgame (different ballgame)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: game (late in the game), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), race (race against time, etc.), wire (down to the wire)
• transmission: baton (pass on the baton)
• unanimity & consensus: ball (play ball), pile-on (n), pile on (consensus), sport (team sport), team up (v)
• work & duty: game (stock market game, etc.)

STAIR (2)
• proper name: stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.)
• shape: stairway (Stairway Falls, etc.), step (shape)

STANDING, SITTING & LYING (2)
• action, inaction & delay: sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v), stand by (v), stand down (v)
• activity: lie (lie low)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: lean towards (v), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by someone (support), stand up (stand up for something), straddle (straddle the fence)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: stand out (attention), standout (n)
• coercion & motivation: lean (lean on)
• commitment & determination: lean into (lean into / into something), stand (stand firm), straddle (straddle the fence)
• condition & status: knee (bring to one’s knees), knee (on knees)
• configuration: sprawling (adj), straddle (configuration)
• conflict: standoff (n)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: lean in (v), sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v)
• development: stand (stand still / development)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: bend (bend over backwards)
• division & connection: foot (foot in both worlds, etc.), straddle (connect)
• dominance & submission: back down (v), cower (v), supine (adj)
• extent & scope: sprawling (adj)
• fictive position: sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)
• growth & development: feet (stand on one’s own two feet)
• obstacles & impedance: stand (stand in the way)
• performance: posture (performance), posturing
• position, policy & negotiation: footing (position), posture (position), posturing, sit down (v), sit-down (other), stance (take a stance), stand (position), stand (a tough stand, etc.), straddle (straddle the fence)
• progress & lack of progress: stand (stand still / progress), standstill (n)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: stand (stand the test of time, etc.)
• readiness & preparedness: flatfooted (caught flatfooted), toe (on one’s toes)
• representation: stand for (v)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: back down (v), knee (bring to one’s knees), lie down (v), rise (resistance), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand up (stand up to something), supine (adj)
• size: sprawling (adj)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: standing (continuing)
• superlative: stand out (attention), standout (n)
• survival, persistence & endurance: stand (stand the test of time, etc.), standing (continuing)
• time: stand (stand still / time)
• unanimity & consensus: stand (stand as one, etc.)

STAR (2) (see also astronomy; moon; sun)
• achievement, recognition & praise: star (person), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: supernova (attention)
• decline: star (decline)
• fate, fortune & chance: star (fate)
• growth & development: supernova (achievement)
• person: star (person)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: star (achievement), star (decline), supernova (achievement)
• proper name: star (Silver Star, etc.)
• shape: star (shape)
• superlative: star (person), star (achievement), stellar, supernova (achievement)

STARTING, GOING, CONTINUING & ENDING (1) (see also curtailment) (see also initiation; reconciliation, resolution & conclusion)
• animal: camel (camel's nose), swan song, tail end (at the tail end)
• arm: hold down (a job, etc.)
• baby: abort (v)
• ball: ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), roll (on a roll), roll (v)
• bell: bell (unring a bell), ring in (the New Year, etc.)
• bird: swan song
• birth: abort (v)
• boat: embark (embark on something), underway
• burden: carry on (v), drag (drag on / out / through), pull out (v)
• burial: knell (death knell)
• cards: fold (v)
• clock: tick on (v)
• doors & thresholds: door (closure)
• engine: downshift (v), flameout, flame out (v), gas (run out of gas), jump-start (v), jump-start (n), kick in (start), kick-start (v), stall (v), stalled, warmed-up
• exclamation: farewell (n)
• explosion: fizzle (fizzle out)
• farming & agriculture: plow (plow through, etc.)
• fire: die out (end), ignite (v), rekindle (v), smolder (v)
• fish: dead (dead in the water)
• flying & falling: launch (v)
• foot: foot (foot in the door), foot (on the right / wrong foot), kick in (start), kick off (v)
• football: kick off (v)
- force: push (push on)
- ground, terrain & land: slope (slippery slope)
- head: head start
- health & medicine: abort (v), spasmodic (adj)
- heart: heart-stopping
- horse: balk (v), bit (champ at the bit), saddle (saddle up)
- infrastructure: ramp (off-ramp)
- journeys & trips: ahead (go ahead), beginning (progress), embark (embark on something), end (no end in sight), go on (v), head start, jumping-off place / point, move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), outset (from the outset), outset (at the outset), push (push on), road (end of the road), set out / off (v), track (stop something in its tracks), underway, way (on the way), way (every step of the way)
- leg: kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v)
- line: line (finish line), line (end of the line, etc.)
- materials & substances: stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something)
- mechanism: button (pause button), gear (in full gear), fear (into gear), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), grind (grind away, etc.), grind on (v), grind (grind to a halt), kick in (start), pause (n), reboot (v), reset (n), reset (v), stall (v), stalled, treadmill (n), wheel (spin one’s wheels), wind down (verb)
- military: ceasefire (n), soldier (soldier on), stand down (v), truce (n)
- mining: vein (in that vein, etc.)
- mountains & hills: slope (slippery slope)
- movement: accelerate (v), ahead (go ahead, etc.), beginning (progress), creep (mission creep, etc.), dead (dead in the water), escalate (v), falter (v), follow-through (investigation, etc.), go on (v), halt (a screeching halt), head start, inertia (n), momentum (n), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), ongoing (investigation, etc.), roll (on a roll), roll (v), rolling (movement), set out / off (v), track (stop something in its tracks), traction (gain / build / get traction), wheel (spin one’s wheels)
- music: waltz (last waltz)
- orientation: end (the end)
- pendulum: swing (in full swing)
- plane: flameout, flame out (v)
- prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (go ahead, etc.), off (it is off, etc.), on (it is on, etc.), over (finished)
- rope: play (play / play out)
- royalty: reign (v)
- sleep: bed (put something to bed), rest (put something to rest)
- sound: knell (death knell), last hurrah, silent (fall silent), swan song, tick on (v)
- sports & games: baton (pass on the baton), follow-through (investigation, etc.), homestretch (n), kick off (v), line (starting line), start (running start)
- standing, sitting & lying: running (continuing)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: tee off (v)
- storm: blow over (v)
- temperature: warmed-up
- theater: bow out, intermission (n), show (the show must go on)
- throwing, putting & planting: launch (v)
- train: line (end of the line, etc.)
- verb: accelerate (v), ahead (go ahead, etc.), balk (v), ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), bed (put something to bed), bell (unring a bell), blow over (v), break off (v), bow out (v), carry on (v), die (survival), die out (end), downshift (v), drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), embark (embark on something), escalate (v), falter (v), fizzle (fizzle out), fold (v), gas (run out of gas), go on (v), grind (grind away, etc.), grind (grind to a halt), grind on (v), ignite (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v), level off (v), life (spring

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 938 of 982
to life), live on (v), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), play (play out), plow (plow through, etc.), plug (pull the plug), pull back (v), pull out (v), push (push on), reign (v), reboot (v), rekindle (v), reset (v), rest (put something to rest), ring in (the New Year, etc.), roll (v), saddle (saddle up), set out / off (v), smolder (v), soldier (soldier on), stall (v), stand down (v), step down (v), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stride (hit one’s stride), tee off (v), tick on (v), track (stop something in its tracks), traction (gain / build / get traction), wind down (v), wrap up (v)

- violence: coup de grace (deathblow)
- walking, running & jumping: falter (v), jump (get the jump), jumping-off place / point, pass (end), run (run into next week, etc.), running (continuing), step (first step, etc.), step down (v), stride (hit one’s stride), track (stop something in its tracks), track (stopped in one’s tracks)
- water: dissolved
- weapon: coup de grace (deathblow)
- wind: blow over (v)

**STATUE (2)**
- character & personality: sphinx (n)
- size: colossal (adj), colossus (n)

**STEEL (1)**
- epithet: Ruhr Valley
- place: Ruhr Valley
- strength & weakness: steel (strength)

**STOMACH (2)**
- acceptance & rejection: choke (v), swallow (accept), swallowed
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: gut (n)
- appearance & reality: underbelly, underside (n)
- bases: guts (insides)
- concealment & lack of concealment: underbelly, underside (n)
- courage & lack of courage: guts (courage)
- destruction: gut (destroy)
- eagerness & reluctance: stomach (eagerness)
- feeling, emotion & effect: gut (n), gutted (feeling), gut-wrenching (adj), stomach (turn one’s stomach)
- flaws & lack of flaws: underbelly, underside (n)
- judgment: gut (n)
- knowledge & intelligence: gut (n)
- orientation: belly (orientation), underbelly, underside (n)

**STORM (2) (see also lightning; rain; weather & climate; wind)**
- accusation & criticism: thunderbolt (n)
- activity: storm (calm before the storm), whirlwind (n)
- amount & effect: blizzard (n), downdraft, hail (n), hail (in a hail), nature (force of nature), storm (by storm), storm (perfect storm), storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: thunder (steal thunder, etc.), thunderclap
- character & personality: nature (force of nature)
- comprehension & incomprehension: lightning bolt (comprehension)
- conflict: storm (in the storm), storm (conflict)
- control & lack of control: whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- development: storm (calm before the storm)
- fate, fortune & chance: blue (out of the blue, etc.), lightning (fate)
- feeling, emotion & effect: lightning bolt (and bolt of lightning, etc.), thunderstruck (adj)
• flaws & lack of flaws: stormy, tempestuous (adj)
• force: storm (v), storm (by storm)
• idea: brainstorm (n), brainstorm (v)
• proper name: Storm (Desert Storm, etc.)
• protection & lack of protection: batten (batten down)
• readiness & preparedness: batten (batten down)
• resemblance: storm (immune-system storm, etc.), thunder (sound), thunder (speech), thunderous
• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: blow over (v)
• sound: thunder (sound), thunderous
• speech: thunder (speech)
• speed: lightning (adj)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: blow over (v)
• storm: batten (batten down)
• survival, persistence & endurance: storm (weather the storm), weather (survive)

STORY (2)
• experience: story (war story)
• resemblance: fairy tale, story (horror story), storybook

STRATEGY (1) (see also position, policy & negotiation; subterfuge)
• cards: bluff (n), card (guilt card, etc.), card (play one's cards), move (chess move, etc.), poker (game)
• chess: endgame, gambit (n), game (chess game), move (chess move, etc.)
• direction: bypass (v), go around (v)
• football: end run (n)
• gambling: bluff (n), card (play one's cards), card (guilt card, etc.), gamble (v), gamble (n), poker (game)
• movement: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
• number: arithmetic, calculus, game (numbers game)
• sports & games: card (play one's cards), card (guilt card, etc.), end run (n), gambit (n), gamble (n), gamble (v), game (numbers game), game (chess game), move (chess move, etc.), waiting game
• verb: bypass (v), card (play one's cards), gamble (v), go around (v), hand (force someone's hand), sidestep (v)
• walking, running & jumping: end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)

STRENGTH & WEAKNESS (1) (see also attenuation; force; protection & lack of protection) (see also courage & lack of courage)
• allusion: Achilles' heel (n), David and Goliath, etc., Goliath (Bible)
• animal: defang (v), eggshell (n), fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), lion (strength and weakness), minnow (n), oats (feel one's oats), paper tiger, teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out) toothless (adj), underdog (competition)
• back: backbone (courage), spine (courage)
• Bible: David and Goliath, etc., Goliath (Bible)
• bird: eggshell (n)
• boxing: glass jaw
• cards: bluff (n), ace (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
• center & periphery: marginalized
• chain: link (weak link)
• chess: pawn (n)
• dam: powerhouse
• dog: underdog (competition)
• electricity: amped (strength), powerhouse (n)
• engine: turbocharge (v)
• family: stepchild (weakness)
• fish: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow
• foot: foot (one foot planted)
• gambling: ace (n), bluff (n), card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards)
• ground, terrain & land: rock (support)
• hardness & softness: snowflake (person), soft (soft on crime, etc.), teacup (person)
• health & medicine: anemic (adj), flabby (adj), healthy (strength), impotence (weakness), impotent (adj), neuter (v), potency (strength), potent (adj), puny (adj), robust (adj), steroids (on steroids)
• horse: oats (feel one’s oats), workhorse (n)
• Iliad & Odyssey: Achilles’ heel
• light & dark: shadow (devitalized)
• lion: lion (strength & weakness)
• materials & substances: cement (v), eggshell (n), flimsy (adj), fragile (weak), hardened (battle-hardened, etc.), oak (strength), rock (support), sag (v), sound (solid), steel (strength), solid (adj), teak (wood), weak (fragile)
• meat: beef up (v)
• mechanism: robot (n)
• person: dandelion (character), fighter (street fighter), lion (strength and weakness), orchid (character), stepchild (weakness), snowflake (person), teacup (person)
• plant: dandelion (character), orchid (character)
• position: underdog (competition)
• religion: David and Goliath, etc., Goliath (Bible)
• size: fish (big fish), fish (small fish), fry (small fry), minnow (n), puny (adj)
• snake: defang (v)
• snow & ice: snowflake (person)
• sports & games: card (strong card), card (trump card), card (hold all the cards), pawn (n)
• steel: steel (strength)
• teeth: teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
• tiger: paper tiger
• tree: oak (strength), teak (wood)
• verb: beef up (v), cement (v), defang (v), teeth (take the teeth out), turbocharge (v), water down (v)
• violence: fighter (street fighter)
• water: water down (v), watered down
• weapon: big gun (and heavy gun), weapon (secret weapon)

**SUBSTANCE & LACK OF SUBSTANCE (1) (see also appearance & reality; performance; substance & lack of substance; subterfuge)**

• air: air (hot air), empty (adj)
• animal: elephant (elephant in the room, etc.), gorilla, paper tiger
• atmosphere: empty (adj), gas (substance), gravity, air (hot air)
• boxing: heavyweight (n), lightweight (n), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• bubble: bubble (v)
• cards: house of cards
• chemistry: essence
• clothing & accessories: dress up (v), fig leaf, naked (substance), strip (strip something down)
• death & life: alive (come alive), flesh and blood, life (bring to life)
• fire: fire (substance), smoke (substance)
• food & drink: food (food for thought), meat (substance), nothing-burger, teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• health & medicine: Band-Aid (n)
• house: house of cards
• infrastructure: facade (n)
• light & dark: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
• materials & substances: concrete, flimsy (adj), hollow (adj), solid (adj), veneer (appearance)
• meat: meat (substance), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• plant: husk (n)
• sea: shell (substance)
• shadow: shadow (devitalized), shadow (shadow boxing, etc.)
• skeleton: skeleton (substance)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: flesh and blood, flesh out (v), fleshted out, skeleton, skin-deep
• snow & ice: iceberg (tip of the iceberg)
• sports & games: charade (n)
• teeth: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• theater: show (performance)
• tiger: paper tiger
• verb: flesh out (v), life (bring to life), light (make light of something), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
• water: bubble (n), deep (extent and scope), frothy (substance), shallow (adj)
• weight: gravity, heavyweight (n), heft (n), light (make light of something), lightly (take something lightly), lightweight (n), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (substance), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weighted, weighty (substance)
• window: window dressing

SUBTERFUGE (1) (see also position, policy & negotiation; strategy) (see also appearance & reality; performance; substance & lack of substance)
• allusion: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n), nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.), Trojan horse (subterfuge)
• animal: burrow (burrow into), fox (subterfuge), mole (n), outfox (v), web (spin a web), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• back: back (behind somebody’s back)
• boxing: punch (sucker punch / verb)
• cards: aboveboard, bluff (n)
• clothing & accessories: cloak-and-dagger, dressed (dressed up, etc.), launder (v), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
• creature: ghostwriter (n)
• direction: aboveboard, bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), shifty (adj), table (under the table), underhand (or underhanded)
• doors & thresholds: trapdoor (computers)
• epithet: nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.)
• eye: eye (subterfuge), see (see through something), wink (n)
• farming & agriculture: straw man (n)
• film: gaslight (v), gaslighting (n)
• fire: smokescreen
• fist: punch (sucker punch / verb)
• flags & banners: flag (false flag)
• foot: track (cover one’s tracks)
• football: end run (n)
• fox: fox (subterfuge), outfox (v)
• gambling: bluff (n)
• gesture: wink (n)
• hand: underhand (or underhanded)
• health & medicine: pill (poison pill)
• history: nine-eleven (Australia’s 9/11, etc.), Pearl Harbor (Australia’s Pearl Harbor, etc.)
• horse: stalking-horse (n)
• hunting: scent (throw somebody off the scent), stalking-horse, trap (n)
• hygiene: launder (v)
• Iliad & Odyssey: Trojan horse (subterfuge)
• insect: web (spin a web)
• light & dark: shady (adj)
• love, courtship & marriage: infidelity (n)
• magic: sleight of hand
• movement: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
• puppet: puppet (sockpuppet / internet)
• pursuit, capture & escape: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
• shadow: shady (adj)
• smell: scent (throw somebody off the scent)
• spider: web (spin a web)
• sports & games: charade (n), end run (n), game (game the system, etc.), game (project, scheme, plan)
• table: table (under the table)
• theater: smoke and mirrors
• verb: bypass (v), gaslight (v), go around (v), launder (v), outfox (v), punch (sucker punch / verb), scent (throw somebody off the scent), see (see through something), sidestep (v), track (cover one’s tracks), trail (throw somebody off the trail)
• walking, running & jumping: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
• wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)

SUCCESS & FAILURE (1) (see also danger; decline; destruction; failure, accident & impairment; flaws & lack of flaws)
• allusion: Cinderella, Waterloo
• animal: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• baby: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• baseball: grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), strike out (v)
• birth: stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• breathing: choke (fail)
• cards: hand (hot hand)
• death & life: kill (verb / accomplishment), stillborn, viable (adj), viability (political viability, etc.)
• direction: fall (fall short), fall through (v), fall down (v), let down (fail)
• dog: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• explosion: blockbuster, dud (n)
• football: goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line)
• gambling: jackpot (hit the jackpot), lottery, sweepstakes (win the sweepstakes)
• ground, terrain & land: pay dirt
• hair: scalp (n)
• history: Waterloo
• hunting: dog (dog won’t hunt)
• infrastructure: blind alley (n)
• journeys & trips: blind alley (n), dead end, way (all the way), wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.)
• military: conquer (v), Pyrrhic victory, Waterloo
• mining: eureka, gold (strike gold), pan out (v), pay dirt
• money: jackpot (hit the jackpot)
• nail: nail (nail something), nail down (gain)
• Native Americans: scalp (n)
• sports & games: goalpost (target), goal line (across the goal line), grand slam, home run (success), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), loser (n), major league (success), park (hit something out of the park), streak (winning streak), strike out (v), winner (n)
• target: goalpost (target), hit (success), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
• temperature: hand (hot hand)
• verb: choke (fail), conquer (v), fall through (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), jackpot (hit the jackpot), kill (verb / accomplishment), let down (fail), nail (nail something), nail down (gain), pan out (v), strike out (v), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
• violence: scalp (n)
• water: dry (come up dry)
• weapon: blockbuster, dud (n), hit (success), target (moving target), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)

SUFFICIENCY, INSUFFICIENCY & EXCESS (1)
• addiction: overdose (n)
• affix: over (overheated, etc.)
• clothing & accessories: shoestring (n)
• container: brim (v)
• desert: desert (food desert, etc.)
• fatness & thinness: fat (adj), lean (insufficiency)
• food & drink: famine (feast to famine), feast (feast to famine), glut (n), glutton (person), insatiable (adj), starvation (n), starvation wages (n)
• ground, terrain & land: desert (food desert, etc.)
• health & medicine: overdose (n)
• hygiene: filthy (filthy rich)
• person: glutton (person)
• skeleton: skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: bare-bones, skeletal (adj), skeleton (skeleton crew, etc.)
• sound: crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
• verb: brim (v)
• water: overflowing (adj)

SUN (2) (see also astronomy, moon, star)
• achievement, recognition & praise: zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: sunset (ride into the sunset)
• decline: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), sun (currency and obsolescence), zenith (at the zenith), zenith (during the zenith), zenith (other)
• superiority & inferiority: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)

SUPERIORITY & INFERIORITY (1) (see also admiration & contempt; dominance & submission; driving force; force; oppression; power)
• affix: out (outpace, etc.)
• animal: underdog (competition)
• astronomy: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• direction: above (above the law, etc.)
• dog: underdog (competition)
• height: dwarf (v), head (head and shoulders above), loom (loom large, etc.)
• light & dark: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), outshine (v), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
• moon: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• position: above (above the law, etc.), underdog (competition)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: above (above the law, etc.)
• shadow: eclipse (v), eclipse (n), overshadow (v), shadow (attention)
• sun: eclipse (v), eclipse (n)
• ticket: second-class (adj)
• verb: circle (run circles around somebody), drown out (v), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), loom (loom large, etc.), outpace (v), outshine (v), outweigh (power), overshadow (v)
• walking, running & jumping: circle (run circles around somebody), outpace (v)
• water: drown out (v), drowned out
• weight: outweigh (power)

SUPERLATIVE (1) (see also achievement, recognition & praise; bases; importance & significance; priority)
• allusion: Homeric (adj), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Promised Land, Shakespearean
• astronomy: star (person), star (achievement), stellar, supernova (achievement)
• basketball: Michael Jordan (epithet)
• Bible: Garden of Eden, Promised Land
• boat: flagship (superlative)
• books & reading: storybook
• boxing: Muhammad Ali (epithet)
• creature: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), angel (superlative)
• day: Christmas
• epithet: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), capital (capital of crime, etc.), Carnegie Hall (epithet), Christmas, golden (golden girl, boy), king (King of Beers, etc.), Obama (Russia’s Obama, etc.), Paris (epithet), pearl (Pearl of the Orient, etc.), prince (epithet), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), Super Bowl, team (dream team)
• family: granddaddy, mother (superlative)
• food & drink: cream (superlative)
• football: Super Bowl
• fruits & vegetables: plum (desirable)
• government: Obama (Russia’s Obama, etc.)
• history: golden age / era
• hour: hour (finest hour)
• Iliad & Odyssey: epic, Homeric (adj)
• light & dark: bright, brilliance (superlative), brilliant (superlative), coruscating (adj), glittering (adj), glowing (adj), light (shining light), light up (v), luminary (n), outshine (v), scintillating (adj), shining (superlative), sparkling (superlative), star (achievement), supernova (achievement)
• materials & substances: golden (golden girl, boy), golden (golden opportunity, etc.)
• military: champion (n)
• mining: gem (n), golden (golden girl, boy), golden (golden opportunity, etc.), jewel (n), lapidary (adj)
• money: rich (superlative)
• mountains & hills: Mount Everest (and Everest), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus)
• person: golden (golden girl, boy), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role), star (person), star (achievement)
• picture: masterpiece (engineering masterpiece, etc.)
• place: capital (capital of crime, etc.), Mount Everest (and Everest), Mount Rushmore, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), Paris (epithet), Saudi Arabia (Saudi Arabia of coal, etc.)
• religion: angel (Angel of the Battlefield, etc.), angel (superlative), Garden of Eden, goddess, heaven (environment), Promised Land, Olympus (Mount Olympus), pantheon (n), paradise, saint (superlative), sainthood (n)
• royalty: aristocratic (aristocratic wine, etc.), crown (n), crown jewels, king (animals), king (King of Beers, etc.), king (primacy), monarch (primacy), prince (epithet), prince (person), princess (person), queen (Queen of Soul, etc.), queen (role)
• school & education: masterclass (n)
• sea: pearl
• sign, signal, symbol: trophy (trophy boyfriend, etc.)
• sports & games: all-star (adj), Michael Jordan (epithet), Muhammad Ali (epithet), Pele (Pele of Saudi Arabia, etc.), Super Bowl, team (dream team)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand out (attention), standout (n)
• star: star (person), star (achievement), stellar, supernova (achievement)
• theater: Carnegie Hall (epithet)
• verb: light up (v)

SUPPLYING (1)
• fire: fuel (v)
• food & drink: feed (supply), feed (feed on / off / into something), serve up (v)
• verb: feed (supply), fuel (v), serve up (v)

SURVEILLANCE (1)
• animal: eagle eye, fly (fly on the wall), watchdog (n)
• bird: eagle eye
• dog: watchdog (n)
• ear: ear (surveillance)
• eye: eagle eye, eye (surveillance)
• insect: fly (fly on the wall)
• shoulder: shoulder (look over somebody’s shoulder)
• wall: wall (the walls have ears)

SURVEYING (2)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: baseline
• measurement: baseline
• possession: claim (stake a claim), stake out (v)

SURVIVAL, PERSISTENCE & ENDURANCE (1) (see also amelioration & renewal, resiliency)
• allusion: Phoenix (myth)
• back: back (back to the wall)
• blade: scrape by (v)
• boat: bailout (n), bail out (n), bail out (save), bailed out, batten (batten down), hand (all hands on deck), ride out (v)
• boundary: limits (push something to its limits)
• boxing: punch (roll with the punches), rope (on the ropes)
• bridge: bridgehead (n)
• burden: carry on (v)
• death & life: alive (keep something alive), die (survival), life (survival), life (give life), lifeline, live (live with something), live on (v), rescue (v), resurrection (n), resuscitate (v), revive (v), save (v)
• direction: buoyed, sink (sink into debt, etc.)
• fire: Phoenix (myth)
• food & drink: shelf life
• foot: toehold (n), foothold (n)
• force: push (push on), take (endure)
• forest: woods (out of the woods)
• giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (bring back)
• ground, terrain & land: brink (back from the brink), dig (dig out)
• hand: cling (v), hand (all hands on deck), hold on (survival)
• journeys & trips: get (get through something), get (get over something), go (go through something), go on (v), road (road from / to something), trail (trail of tears), wayside (fallen by the wayside, etc.), woods (out of the woods)
• knife: scrape by (v)
• materials & substances: cement (v), grit (political grit, etc.), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stick (endure)
• military: entrenched, soldier (soldier on)
• mining: dig (dig out)
• mountains & hills: foothold (n)
• movement: go (go through something), go on (v), remain (v)
• neck: neck (save one’s neck)
• person: hand (all hands on deck), survivor (person)
• religion: hell (situation)
• riding: ride out (v)
• river: bridgehead (n)
• rope: rope (on the ropes)
• school & education: test (test of time)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: skin (save one's skin)
• sports & games: game (game of life, etc.)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand the test of time, etc.), standing (continuing)
• storm: batten (batten down), storm (weather the storm), weather (survive)
• toe: toehold (n)
• verb: alive (keep something alive), bail out (save), bring (bring back), carry on (v), cement (v), cling (v), die (survival), dig (dig out), drown (v), get (get through something), get (get over something), go (go through something), go on (v), hack (hack something / endurance), hold on (survival), life (give life), limits (push something to its limits), live on (v), punch (roll with the punches), put up with (v), push (push on), remain (v), rescue (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), ride out (v), save (v), scrape by (v), sink (sink into debt, etc.), skin (save one’s skin), soldier (soldier on), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stick (endurance), storm (weather the storm), swim (v), take (endure), water (keep one’s head above water), water (tread water), weather (survive)
• walking, running & jumping: running (continuing)
• water: afloat, buoyed, depth (out of one’s depth), drip (drip-drip), drown, lifeline, sink (sink into debt, etc.), sinking, sink or swim, swim (v), underwater (adj), water (keep one's head above water), water (tread water)

**SUSPICION (1)**
• animal: fishy (adj), rat (smell a rat)
• fish: fishy (adj)
• rat: rat (smell a rat)
• smell: rat (smell a rat), smell (suspicion)

**SWAMP (2)**
• amelioration & renewal: swamp (drain the swamp)
• corruption: swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp)
• environment: swamp (fever swamp)

**SWORD (2) (see also ax; blade; knife; weapon) (see also explosion; fortification; knife; military; weapon)**
• conflict: sword (cross swords), sword (at swords’ points)
• fate, fortune & chance: sword (fate), Sword of Damocles
• feeling, emotion & effect: cut (cut both ways), dagger, double-edged (sword), knife (knife in the heart), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword)
• judgment: sword (fall on one’s sword)
• message: saber rattling
• proper name: swordfish
• resemblance: swordfish
• responsibility: sword (fall on one’s sword)
• verb: sword (fall on one’s sword)
• violence: sword (violence)

**SYMPHONY (2)**
• resemblance: symphony (n)
• sound: symphony (n)

**TABLE (2)**
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: table (come back to the table)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: table (off the table)
• inclusion & exclusion: table (inclusivity)
• position, policy & negotiation: sit down (v), sit-down (other), table (on the table), table (off the table), table (come back to the table), table (turn the tables)
• proper name: table (Table Mountain, etc.)
• reversal: table (turn the tables)
• shape: table (Table Mountain, etc.)
• subterfuge: table (under the table)
• worth & lack of worth: table (bring something to the table)

**TAKING & REMOVING (1) (see also giving, receiving, bringing & returning)**
• blade: chip away (v)
• cows & cattle: milk (v)
• crime: buccaneer (person), hijack (v), hijacked, loot (v), piracy, pirate (person), plundered, poach (v), poached, rob (v), robbed, robbery (n), steal (steal customers, etc.), usurp (v)
• hand: grab (v), snatch (v)
• person: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
• pressure: wring (wring something from / out of something)
• royalty: usurp (v)
• sea: buccaneer (person), pirate (person)
• sheep: fleeced
• verb: chip away (v), grab (v), hijack (v), loot (v), milk (v), poach (v), rob (v), steal (steal customers, etc.), snatch (v), usurp (v), wring (wring something from / out of something)
TARGET (1)
- football: goalpost (target)
- sports & games: goalpost (target)
- verb: aim (take aim at something), gun (v), target (v), zero in on (verb)
- weapon: aim (take aim at something), aimed, bull’s-eye (target), cross hair (in the cross hairs), gun (v), mark (off the mark), sight (in somebody's sights), sight (sights), target (v), target (n), target (moving target), targeted, zero in on (v), zone (target zone)
- window: window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)

TARGET (2)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: target (easy target)
- protection & lack of protection: target (easy target)
- shape: bull’s-eye (shape)
- success & failure: goalpost (target), hit (success), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: target date

TASTE (2) (see also cooking; food & drink; fruits & vegetables; meat)
- amount: taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- attraction & repulsion: juicy
- character & personality: bitter (personality); flavor (other), sour (personality); sweet (personality)
- consumption: palatable (adj), saccharine (adj), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
- corruption: sour (v), sour (adj), taste (a bad taste, etc.)
- enthusiasm: distaste (n), taste (taste for violence, etc.)
- experience: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine), salt (sailor), seasoned (adj), taste (taste freedom, etc.), taste (taste of freedom, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
- feeling, emotion & effect: bitter (personality), bittersweet, savor (v), taste (a bad taste, etc.), unsavory
- flaws & lack of flaws: palatable (adj), taste (a bad taste), unsavory
- heart: sweetheart (other)
- judgment: taste (in good taste, etc.), taste (judgment)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: flavor (flavor of the month)
- reversal: medicine (a taste of one’s own medicine)
- speech: honey-tongued, salty (language), smooth (speech), talk (sweet talk)
- vocative: Honey, sweetheart (vocative)
- wants, needs, hopes & goals: taste (taste for violence, etc.)

TAXONOMY & CLASSIFICATION (1) (see also division)
- animal: animal (different animal), beast (different beast, etc.), breed (type), creature (creature of habit, etc.), fish (different kettle of fish), species (type)
- cloth: cloth (cut from cloth), strand (n), stripe (of all stripes)
- creature: creature (creature of habit, etc.)
- direction: fall (fall into a category, etc.)
- family: family (plants), family (animals), family (viruses), family (products), family (languages), generation (products, etc.)
- fish: fish (different kettle of fish)
- food & drink: fish (different kettle of fish)
- health & medicine: strain (type)
- mechanism: break down (divide)
- royalty: kingdom (animal kingdom)
- sports & games: ballgame (different ballgame)
• tree: branch (taxonomy)
• verb: curate (v)

TEETH (2)
• attenuation: teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
• danger: teeth (in / into the teeth of)
• extent & scope: teeth (to the teeth)
• feeling, emotion & effect: gnaw (v), teeth (gnash one’s teeth), teeth (kick in the teeth)
• flaws & lack of flaws: teething
• force: teeth (take the teeth out), teeth (teeth), toothless (adj)
• growth & development: teething
• initiation: toothpaste (put the toothpaste back in the tube)
• involvement: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• revenge: tooth (a tooth for a tooth)
• reversal: bite (bite back, etc.)
• sensation: biting, gnaw (v), gnawing
• strength & weakness: teeth (force), teeth (take the teeth out), toothless (adj)
• substance & lack of substance: teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)

TEMPERATURE (2) (see also fire)
• acceptance & rejection: cold shoulder, freeze out (v), warm (v)
• accusation & criticism: heat (criticism)
• activity: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), cool (cool off / activity), febrile (adj), feverish (adj), feverishly, fever pitch, frozen (activity), heat up (v), hot (activity), hotspot (place), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: lukewarm (adj)
• amelioration & renewal: ice (break the ice), thaw (v), thaw (n)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil (boil down to something)
• appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v)
• bases: boil (boil down to something)
• behavior: bask (v), hothead (n)
• character & personality: cold (feeling), coolheaded (adj), fiery (character), firebrand, hot dog (person), hothead (n), hotheaded (adj), warmhearted (adj)
• coercion & motivation: heat (turn up the heat, etc.)
• conflict: cold war
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: frog (frog in boiling water)
• consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water)
• constraint & lack of constraint: ice (put on ice)
• control & lack of control: hothead (n), hotheaded (adj)
• division & connection: ice (break the ice)
• eagerness & reluctance: cold feet, lukewarm (adj)
• empathy & lack of empathy: coldhearted (adj), coldly
• environment: cauldron (n), crucible (n), furnance (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: bask (v), blood (in cold blood), blood (blood runs cold), boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), button (hot button), chill (feeling), chilling (adj), cold (feeling), chilly, cold, coldly, cool (cool off, etc.), cool (feeling), coolly (adverb), cozy (adj), febrile (adj), frosty (adj), heat (in the heat of passion, etc.), heated (emotion), heatedly, hothead (n), hotly, ice (break the ice), ice-cold, incendiary (speech), lukewarm (adj), overheated (adj), scorching (adj), seethe (v), steam (v), temperature (raise the temperature), tepid, vein (ice in one’s veins), warm (v), warm (adj), warmly, warmth
- heart: coldhearted (adj), warmhearted (adj)
- identity & nature: melting pot (n)
- inclusion & exclusion: cold (in the cold), freeze out (v), frozen out (excluded)
- initiation: boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), combustible, fiery (character), fiery (speech), incendiary (speech), incendiary (other), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity)
- location: hotspot (place)
- measurement: thermometer (n)
- mixture: melting pot (n)
- oppression: chill (oppression)
- person: firebrand (person), hothead (person)
- place: hotspot (place)
- pressure: heat (pressure)
- primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: cold (cold case, etc.)
- punishment & recrimination: heat (criticism)
- relationship: cozy (adj)
- sex: steamy
- situation: frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water), hot water (into hot water)
- speech: combustible, fiery (speech), incendiary (speech)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: warmed-up
- success & failure: hand (hot hand)

**TENT (2)**

- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: tent (fold one’s tent)
- commitment & determination: tent (fold one’s tent)
- inclusion & exclusion: tent (inclusivity)

**THEATER (2)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: gallery (cheering gallery)
- amount: repertoire (n)
- appearance & disappearance: curtain call
- appearance & reality: theater (appearance), trial (show trial)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: backstage (adj), downplay (v), limelight (in the limelight), photobomb (v), platform (n), play down (v), show (steal the show), showman (person), stage (center stage), stage (attention), spotlight (in / under the spotlight), spotlight (into the spotlight), spotlight (out of the spotlight), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), spotlight (other), upstage (v)
- attenuation: play down (v)
- behavior: dramatic (dramatic child, etc.)
- center & periphery: stage (attention), stage (center state), wings (in the wings)
- character & personality: dramatic (dramatic child, etc.)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bow out (v), curtain call, encore, exit (n), usher in (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: backstage (adj), behind-the-scenes, curtain (pull back the curtain), scene (behind the scenes)
- context: backdrop (against a backdrop)
- development: act (development), climax (n), finale (n), script (to script), stage (set the stage)
- directing: stage (v), staged (directed)
- extent & scope: dramatic (extent), dramatically
- fantasy & reality: theater of the absurd
- feeling, emotion & effect: drama (tense drama, etc.), dramatic (the dramatic), dramatic (effect), farce (n), melodrama (n), melodramatic (adj), tragedy (n)
- group, set & collection: cast (cast of candidates, etc.), repertoire (n)
- help & assistance: repertoire (n)
- importance & significance: role (function or part)
- judgment: review (n)
- orientation: upstage (v)
- performance: act (performance), act (insincere show), dog-and-pony show (performance), drama (drama queen, etc.), dramatic (dramatic child, etc.), gallery (play to the gallery), grandstanding (n), play (v), repertoire (n), role (act), set piece (n), show (performance), show business (performance), stage (v), staged (directed), stage-manage (v), theater (performance), theatrics (n), trial (show trial)
- proximity: seat (front seat), seat (front-row seat)
- readiness & preparedness: rehearsal, rehearse
- resemblance: light show
- role: act (insincere show), act (performance)
- script: script (to script)
- searching & discovery: talent scout (and spotter, etc.)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: bow out, intermission (n), show (the show must go on)
- substance & lack of substance: show (performance)
- subterfuge: smoke and mirrors
- superlative: Carnegie Hall (epithet)

**THROAT (2) (see also breathing)**
- acceptance & rejection: swallow (accept), swallowed
- affliction: choke (v)
- oppression: throat (ram something down the throat)
- predation: jugular (go for the jugular), throat (predation)
- resemblance: throat (resemblance)
- shape: throat (resemblance)
- speech: throat (jump down someone’s throat)

**THROWING, PUTTING & PLANTING (1)**
- arm: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), hurl (v), throw out (v)
- bodily process: spew (vomit)
- farming & agriculture: plant (put), plant (create), plow (put), sow (v), sown (planted)
- flying & falling: launch (v)
- health & medicine: inject (v), injection (n)
- mechanism: catapult (v), catapulted, launch (v), launching pad, thrust (v)
- pile: heap (v)
- plant: plant (put), plant (create), planted, sow (v), sown (planted)
- rocket: launching pad
- verb: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), catapult (v), heap (v), hurl (v), inject (v), launch (v), plant (put), plant (create), plow (put), pour (put), sink (put), sow (v), sown (planted), spew (vomit), throw out (v), thrust (v)
- walking, running & jumping: leap (n)
- water: infusion (n), pour (put), sink (put)

**THROWING, PUTTING & PLANTING (2)**
- dismissal, removal & resignation: outcast (person)
- help & assistance: pitch in (help)
- initiation: launch (v)
- involvement: throw (throw oneself into something)
- isolation & remoteness: castaway (person)
• society: castaway (person), outcast (person)

**THUMB (2)**
• oppression: thumb (under the thumb)

**TICKET (2)**
• cost & benefit: meal ticket
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: pass (free pass), ticket (n)
• superiority & inferiority: second-class (adj)

**TIDE (2) (see also sea; tsunami; wave)**
• amelioration & renewal: tide (stem the tide, etc.)
• amount & effect: floodtide, surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (rising tide), tide (on a tide), tide (other)
• attraction & repulsion: pull (tidal pull)
• control & lack of control: King Canute
• decline: ebb (decline), ebb (at a low ebb), ebb (on the ebb)
• development: ebb (development), tide (turn the tide, etc.)
• directing: surge (transitive verb)
• extent & scope: high tide
• increase & decrease: flow (increase), surge (intransitive verb / increase)
• movement: ebb (movement), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), tide (other)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: high tide
• resistance, opposition & defeat: tide (buck the tide)
• reversal: tide (turn the tide, etc.)
• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: tide (buck the tide)

**TIGER (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; vulture; wolf)**
• control & lack of control: tiger (n)
• force: paper tiger
• strength & weakness: paper tiger
• substance & lack of substance: paper tiger

**TIME (1)**
• burden: drag (drag on / out / through), haul (for the long haul)
• clock: clock (turn back the clock), clock (types), clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.)
• competition: clock (race with the clock)
• consumption: time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (use time)
• container: past (in the past)
• direction: go (time), side (on one’s side / time), time (time has passed)
• distance: long (time), long-run (adj), run (in / over the long run), way (a long way off)
• family: father (Father Time)
• mechanism: time machine
• money: spare (a minute to spare, etc.), spend (time), time (buy time, etc.), time (steal time, etc.), time (borrowed time)
• movement: crawl (speed), drag (drag on / out / through), fly (time flies), go (time), race (time), slow (adj), stand (stand still / time), time (time has passed)
• position: side (on one’s side / time)
• religion: grace (grace period)
• season: season (time)
• sound: tick-tock (n)
• standing, sitting & lying: stand (stand still / time)
• verb: crawl (speed), go (time), spare (a minute to spare, etc.), spend (time), stand (stand still / time), time (buy
time, etc.), time (steal time, etc.), time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (use time), time (time has
passed)
• walking, running & jumping: long-run (adj), run (in / over the long run)
• water: depth (depths of winter, etc.)
• weight: haul (for the long haul)

TIMELINESS & LACK OF TIMELINESS (1)
• baseball: inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning)
• birth: gestate (v), gestation (film, etc.)
• boat: ship (ship has sailed, etc.)
• burden: drag (drag on / out / through)
• bridge: bridge (cross that bridge)
• clock: clock (race with the clock), clock (clock winds down, etc.), clock (clock is ticking, etc.), clock (reset the
clock), hourglass (time)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: time (the time can arrive, etc.)
• competition: clock (race with the clock), race (race against time, etc.)
• consumption: time (run out of time), time (waste time)
• day: dearly (timeliness), day (early / late in the day), late (timeliness), morning (early in the morning)
• direction: ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule, etc.), time (past time), up (your time is up,
etc.)
• fire: backlog (amount)
• fruits & vegetables: ripe (adj)
• head: head start
• horse: wire (down to the wire)
• hour: golden hour, hour (timeliness)
• journeys & trips: bridge (cross that bridge), head start
• money: spare (a minute to spare, etc.)
• movement: head start, lethargic (adj), slow (adj)
• number: countdown (n)
• party: party (late to the party)
• prep, adv, adj, particle: ahead (ahead of schedule, etc.), behind (behind schedule), time (past time), time (it’s
time, etc.), up (your time is up, etc.)
• pressure: crunch (crunch time), crunch (cash crunch, etc.)
• religion: grace (grace period)
• river: bridge (cross that bridge)
• shape: curve (behind / ahead of the curve), streamline (speed up)
• sports & games: game (late in the game), inning (in the first inning), inning (ninth inning), race (race against
time, etc.), wire (down to the wire)
• target: target date
• train: train (train has left the station, etc.)
• verb: bridge (cross that bridge), gestate (v), ship (ship has sailed, etc.), spare (a minute to spare, etc.), streamline
(speed up), time (run out of time), time (waste time), train (train has left the station, etc.)
• walking, running & jumping: jump (get the jump)
• weapon: target date
• window: window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)
TOE (2)
- conflict: toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.)
- disruption: toe (step on toes)
- experimentation: toe (dip one’s toes)
- feeling, emotion & effect: toe (step on toes)
- involvement: toe (dip one’s toes)
- presence & absence: toehold (n)
- readiness & preparedness: toe (on one’s toes)
- survival, persistence & endurance: toehold (n)

TONGUE (2)
- absorption & immersion: lap up (v)
- accusation & criticism: tongue-lashing
- consumption: lap up (v)
- control & lack of control: tongue (hold one’s tongue)
- danger: tongue (danger)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: tongue twister, tongue-twisting
- failure, accident & impairment: tongue (slip of the tongue)
- functioning: tongue (lose one’s tongue)
- language: tongue (language)
- speech: acid-tongued, honey-tongued, sharp-tongued, silver-tongued, tongue (bite one’s tongue), tongue (hold one’s tongue), tongue-lashing

TOOLS & TECHNOLOGY (2) (see also engine; manufacturing; mechanism)
- access & lack of access: black box (n)
- action, inaction & delay: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- amelioration & renewal: calibrate (adjust), plug (v), plugged (fixed), tighten (v), tweak (n)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: black box (n), microscope (under a microscope), signal (other)
- appearance & disappearance: radar (drop off the radar)
- attachment: riveted
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: lens (other), magnifying glass (under a magnifying glass), microscope (under a microscope), radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen)
- attraction & repulsion: magnet (attraction), magnetic (adj), recoil (v)
- behavior: compass (moral compass)
- coercion & motivation: screw (tighten the screws)
- concealment & lack of concealment: black box (n)
- consciousness & awareness: antenna, radar (on the radar), radar (below / under the radar), radar (drop off the radar), radar (under the radar screen), radar (radar screen)
- creation & transformation: churn out (v), grind out (v)
- destruction: bulldoze (v), steamroll (v), wrecking ball (n)
- direction: bearing (direction), compass (moral compass), lodestone
- dismissal, removal & resignation: ax (n), chainsaw (n)
- division & connection: connect (v), coupled, disconnect (n), hook up (connect), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
- driving force: wedge (edge of the wedge)
- effect: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- extent & scope: compass (within / outside the compass)
- failure, accident & impairment: screw up (v)
- feeling, emotion & effect: needle (move the needle, etc.)
- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: rake in (v)
• group, set & collection: set (skill set), toolbox, toolkit
• help & assistance: device (n), instrument, tool (help)
• impression: engraved (impression), etch (v), etched, stamp (impression), stamped
• increase & decrease: jack up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v)
• measurement: barometer (n), calibrate (adjust), gauge (n), thermometer (n), tweak (n), yardstick (n)
• message: megaphone (n), message (send a message), signal (mixed signals), signal (other)
• perception, perspective & point of view: lens (through a lens), lens (other), microscope (through a microscope), prism (through the prism), prism (other)
• power: high-powered (adj), leverage (n), leverage (v)
• pressure: clampdown, screw (tighten the screws), vise (pressure)
• progress & lack of progress: needle (move the needle, etc.)
• proper name: barometer (Arab Barometer, etc.)
• searching & discovery: needle (needle in a haystack), sift (searching), sifted
• sex: hookup (sex)
• script: boilerplate (n)
• searching & discovery: rake up (v)
• shape: hourglass (shape)
• situation: jam (situation), vise (pressure)
• social interaction: hook up (relationship)
• speech: retort (speech)
• transmission: megaphone (n)
• unanimity & consensus: synch (in synch)
• worth & lack of worth: sift (searching)

TOOTH (see teeth)

TRAIN (2)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
• appearance: bell (bells and whistles)
• behavior: rail (off the rails)
• coercion & motivation: railroad (v), railroaded
• consciousness & awareness: asleep (asleep at the switch)
• control & lack of control: train (runaway train)
• danger: rail (third rail)
• destruction: wreck (train wreck)
• directing: steward (role)
• direction: track (direction), track (on track)
• division & connection: track (across the tracks, etc.)
• driving force: train (hype train, etc.)
• failure, accident & impairment: derail (v), derailed, rail (off the rails), train (failure), wreck (train wreck)
• force: express (Pineapple Express, etc.), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (full steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.)
• future: train (future)
• help & assistance: steward (role)
• oppression: railroad (v)
• progress & lack of progress: track (on track)
• sequence: train (in one's train)
• speed: track (fast track)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: line (end of the line, etc.)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: train (train has left the station, etc.)
• unanimity & consensus: train (get on the Trump train, etc.)

**TRANSMISSION (1) (see also repetition)**

- allusion: Johnny Appleseed
- apple: Johnny Appleseed
- bodily process: sneeze (v)
- family: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (obsolescence), legacy (effect), legacy (reputation)
- fire: torch (other)
- food & drink: feed (video, etc.)
- hand: handed down (transmission), hand-me-down
- health & medicine: contagious, infectious, sneeze (v), viral, virulent (adj)
- history: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
- money: heir (n), inheritance (n), legacy (effect)
- rubbing & washing: rub off (v)
- sound: echo (repeat), echo chamber, echoed, reverberate (v), reverberation (n)
- sports & games: baton (pass on the baton)
- tools & technology: megaphone (n)
- verb: echo (repeat), jump (transmission), leap (transmission), reverberate (v), rub off (v), sneeze (v), stream (direct)
- walking, running & jumping: jump (transmission), leap (transmission)
- water: stream (direct), streamed (digital), streaming (digital), streaming (streaming media)

**TRANSPORTATION (1)**

- animal: cart (cart off), drag, haul (v), hauled in, hauled off, mule (drug mule, etc.)
- boat: ship (ship of the desert)
- bridge: bridge (air bridge, etc.)
- epithet: ship (ship of the desert)
- verb: cart (cart off), haul (v)

**TREE (2) (see also farming & agriculture; plant; wheat)**

- achievement, recognition & praise: laurels (praise)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: root (root cause)
- bases: rooted, root (at the root), root (root cause), root (root of the problem, etc.)
- branching system: branch (taxonomy), branch out (v), family tree, trunk (branching system)
- cost & benefit: fruit (low-hanging fruit), windfall (n)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: fruit (low-hanging fruit)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: root out (v), uprooted
- fate, fortune & chance: chip (chips fall, etc.), limb (go out on a limb)
- growth & development: branch out (v), root (take root, etc.)
- origin: root (origin), root (root of the problem, etc.)
- proper name: Oak (Royal Oak, etc.)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: olive branch
- resemblance: tree (resemblance)
- strength & weakness: oak (strength), teak (wood)
- taxonomy & classification: branch (taxonomy)
- worth & lack of worth: deadwood, windfall (n)

**TSUNAMI (2) (see also sea; tide; wave)**

- amount & effect: tsunami

**UMBRELLA (2)**

- cover: umbrella (under an umbrella), umbrella (other)
• protection & lack of protection: umbrella (protection)

UNANIMITY & CONSENSUS (1) (see also allegiance, support & betrayal; disruption; help & assistance; sanctioning, authority & non-conformity)

• allusion: procrustean (adj)
• boat: board (on board), boat (in the same boat), boat (rock the boat), row (row in the same direction, etc.)
• books & reading: page (on the same page)
• burden: pull (pull together)
• cards: suit (follow suit)
• direction: go (go along)
• eye: eye (see eye to eye, etc.)
• journeys & trips: go (go along)
• line: line (toe a line, etc.), line up (v), lockstep (in lockstep), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rank-and-file (adj)
• military: lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), marching orders, rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), rank-and-file (adj)
• mechanism: bus (allegiance), truck (control)
• movement: go (go along)
• music: bandwagon (n), harmony (in harmony), tune (in tune, etc.), tune (out of tune)
• pile: pile-on (n), pile on (consensus)
• radio: wavelength (on the same wavelength)
• religion: choir (preach to the choir)
• shoulder: shoulder (stand shoulder to shoulder, etc.)
• speech: voice (speak with a single voice)
• sports & games: ball (play ball), pile-on (n), pile on (consensus), sport (team sport), team up (v)
• standing, sitting, & lying: stand (stand as one, etc.)
• tools & technology: synch (in synch)
• train: train (get on the Trump train, etc.)
• verb: go (go along), line (toe a line, etc.), line up (v), march (together, etc.), pile on (consensus), pull (pull together), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), stand (stand as one, etc.), suit (follow suit), team up (v)
• walking, running & jumping: highway (my way or the highway), lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), step (in step), step (out of step)

VERB (2)

• absorption & immersion: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorb (punishment, etc.), bury (immerse), drink in (v), hoover (hoover up, etc.), imbibe (v), immerse (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), sink in (v), soak up (v), steep (v), suck up (v)
• acceptance & rejection: back (turn one’s back), blackball (v), blacklist (v), buy (other), embrace (v), freeze out (v), quarantine (v), reach (reach out), retch (v), shun (v), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), turn down (v), warm (v)
• access & lack of access: bottle up (v), open up (access), shut out (v), tap (v), tap into (v)
• accusation & criticism: bash (v), blast (v), come down on (v), crucify (v), finger (point a finger), go (go after somebody / attack), grill (v), lambast (v), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mud (drag something through the mud), pillory (v), pummel (v), rail (v), savage (v), scold (v), skewer (v), slam (v), snipe (v), sully (v), take down (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
• achievement, recognition & praise: applaud (v), cheer (cheer on), elevate (v), hat (take off one’s hat to somebody), nod (refer), praise (sing someone’s praises), rise (achieve), salute (v)
• action, inaction & delay: can (kick the can down the road), clock (run out the clock), dust (collect dust), face up (face up to something), feet (drag one’s feet), hand (sit on one’s hands), hand (throw up one’s hands), handle
(deal with), move (take action), needle (move the needle, etc.), road (push something down the road), sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v), stand by (v), stand down (v), step in (v), tackle (v), trigger (pull the trigger)

- activity: boom (increase), brew (activity), bristle (v), bubble (v), bubble up (v), cool (cool off / activity), crawl (activity), fly (activity), freeze (v), heat up (v), hop (v), hum (hum along), lie (lie low), life (spring to life), lit (lit up), percolate (v), scramble (v), simmer (v), swirl (v), smolder (v), swarm (v), wake (semblance)
- adapting: tailor (v)
- admiration & contempt: look (look up to somebody), look (look down on something)
- affliction: bear (a weight, etc.), bedevil (v), burden (v), choke (v), convulse (v), dog (afflict), eat (destroy), fester (v), gall (v), haunt (v), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), infest (v), needle (v), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), plague (v), prick (v), scar (v), skewer (v), torture (afflict), weigh (oppress)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: back (v), embrace (v) (take a bullet for somebody), stand by (v) (support), stand up (stand up for something), back (v), bus (throw somebody under the bus), cool (cool off), desert (v), drum up (v), embrace (v), go (go along), horse (switch horses), hung (hung out to dry), lean towards (v), post (abandon one’s post), prop up (v), pull (pull for somebody), rally (v), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), recant (v), rug (pull the rug out), sell out (v), shark (throw someone to the sharks), stab (stab somebody in the back), stand (stand behind something, etc.), stand by (v) (support), stand up (stand up for something), stick (stick to / by / with something), straddle (straddle the fence), turn (turn against / on something), vote (vote with one’s feet, etc.), wagon (hitch one’s wagon to something), walk (walk away from something), weight (put / throw one’s weight behind something), win over (v), wind (dangle in the wind), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
- amelioration & renewal: act (clean up one’s act), air (clear the air), bail out (save), bailed out, battery (recharge one’s batteries), bolster (v), bridge (v), bring (bring back), burn off (v), buttress (v), calibrate (adjust), clean (v), clean (come clean), clean up (improve), clear up (v), counterbalance (v), cure (v), cushion (v), dead (rise from the dead), defuse (v), exorcise (v), fence (mend fences), fine-tune (v), get out (get out from under), hack (fix), heal (v), hock (v), house (clean house), ice (break the ice), iron out (v), lancer (v), life (bring to life), life (breathe life), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), mend (v), patch (amelioration), piece (pick up the pieces), playing field (level the playing field), plug (v), polish (v), prop up (v), put (put something back together), rebuild (v), recycle (v), revitalize (v), repair (v), resurrect (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), right (right a wrong, etc.), salvage (v), scaffold (v), sharp (v), ship (right the ship, etc.), shore up (v), smooth (v), soothe (sensation), stabilize (v), steam (blow / let off steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), straight out (v), swamp (drain the swamp), tailor (v), tame (v), thaw (v), tide (stem the tide, etc.), tighten (v), tinker (v), turn around (v), untangle (v), unwind (v), vent (v), way (pave the way), wheel (grease the wheels), wind down (relax)
- amount: brim (v)
- amount & effect: besiege (v), bombard (v), erupt (v), flood (amount), gush (v), inundate (v), invade (v), pour (in, into, out, etc.), rain (rain down), shower (v), smoother (amount and effect), spill (amount and effect), storm (v), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swarm (v)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil (boil down to something), break down (explain), chase down (v), deconstruct (v), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dissect (v), dot (connect the dots), drill (drill down, etc.), explore (analyze), get (get somewhere), go on (explain), illuminate (v), light (shed light), look (analysis), make (make of something), misdiagnose (v), misread (v), parse (v), peel (peel back the layers, etc.), pick apart (analyze), piece together (v), put (put something together), read (read something in something), read (analyze), spell out (v), strip (strip something down), talk (talk somebody through something), tease out (v), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), unpack (v), unpick (v), untangle (v), walk (walk somebody through something), weigh (analyze)
- appeal: call for (appeal), cry out (v), speak (speak to something), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v)
- appearance & disappearance: arise (v), background (fade into the background), blink (light), bubble up (v), come forward (v), come up (appearance), crop up (v), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dredge up (v), dry up (v), emerge (v), evaporate (v), fade (v), fade away (v), fall (fall off the radar screen, etc.),
commitment & determination: bring (bring it), one’s (v), circle back (v), spring up (v), surface (v), surface (bring to the surface), swallow (disappearance), turn out (rally), turn up (appear), uncover (v)

- appearance & reality: whitewash (v)
- assembling: muster (muster courage, etc.), rally (v), round up (assemble)
- attachment: adhere (adhere to something), bind (connect), cling (v), embrace (v), pin (attach), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something)
- attainment: coast (attain), finger (slip through one’s fingers), get (get somewhere), hit (hit $30, etc.), meet (attain), push (attainment), sail (sail to victory, etc.), waltz (attain)
- attempt: go (have a go at something), hand (try one’s hand)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: background (fade into the background), ball (take one’s eye off the ball), barnstorm (v), blend in (v), blow up (attention / verb), burst on / onto the scene, etc., cheerlead (v), downplay (v), drum (beat / bang the drum), drumbeat, drum up (v), eclipse (v), explode (onto the scene, etc.), focus (v), herald (v), herald (n), highlight (v), light (shine a light), loom (loom large, etc.), name-check (v), overshadow (v), photobomb (v), pitch (promote), play down (v), point out (v), punctuate (v), radar (drop off the radar), raise (attention), sell (promote), show (show the steal), showboat (v), showcase (v), skyrocket (to attention, etc.), spotlight (shine a spotlight), spotlight (steal the spotlight), stand out (attention), steal (steal the show, etc.), tout (v), trumpet (blow one’s own trumpet), trumpet (v), tuned (stay tuned), underline (attention), underscore (attention), upstage (v)
- attenuation: dampen (v), defang (v), deflate (pressure), play down (v), soften (v), tarnish (v), teeth (take the teeth out), tone down (v), water down (v)
- attraction & repulsion: charm (v), court (v), draw (attract), flirt (v), hit (hit it off), invite (v), lure (v), recoil (v), swoon (v), woo (v)
- avoidance & separation: back away (v), bypass (v), dodge (v), duck (avoid), flee (v), go around (v), pull back (v), push (push somebody away, etc.), quarantine (v), revolve (revolve around something), run (run away), shy (shy away), sidestep (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), steer (steer clear of something), step (step back from something), walk (walk away from something)
- bases: boil (boil down to something), ground (prepare the ground), revolve (revolve around something), shoulder (stand on somebody’s shoulders), underlie (v)
- behavior: act (clean up one’s act), bask (v), clown (v), descend (v), end (go off the deep end), fall down (v), flock (v), go (behavior), hog (v), hell (raise hell), inebriate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), line (cross the line), overreach (v), overstep (v), rise (rise above something), showboat (v), sink (behavior), stoop (behavior), stop (stop at nothing), stray (behavior), swarm (v), tame (v), wall (ricochet off the wall), wallow (v)
- branching system: feed (feed into)
- character & personality: card (hold one’s cards close)
- characterization: brand (v), cast (characterize), christen (v), paint (characterize), recast (v)
- coercion & motivation: arm (twist arms, etc.), bully (v), crack down (v), draft (v), feet (hold somebody’s feet to the fire), fire (hold somebody’s feet to the fire), fire (light a fire under somebody), fire up (v), goad (v), grill (v), gun (hold a gun to one’s head, etc.), hand (force someone’s hand), head (hold something over one’s head), hector (v), herd (ride herd), lean (lean on), press (v), prod (v), push (coercion and motivation), screw (tighten the screws), railroad (v), strong-arm (v), trip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: bail out (leave), bow out (v), burst on / onto the scene, etc., circle back (v), come back (v), descend (descend on), fade away (v), footstep (retrace one’s footsteps), get (get somewhere), go (come and go), head (rear its head, etc.), herald (v), hit (arrive), hover (other), linger (v), loiter (v), remain (v), return (v), ring in (the New Year, etc.), roar back (v), table (come back to the table), tent (fold one’s tent), usher in (v), walk (walk away from something), waltz in (v), wash up (v)
- commitment & determination: bring (bring it), budge (v), double down (v), draft (v), go (go big), go (go for something), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), invest (v), lean into (lean in / into something), live up to
• competition: jockey (v), lose out (v), pass (progress)
• complexity: wind (wind its way)
• comprehension & incomprehension: dawn (v), digest (v), follow (argument), get (understand), grasp (comprehend), head (scratch one’s head), head (shake one’s head), head (go over one’s head, etc.), head (get one’s head around something, etc.), hit (comprehension), illuminate (v), mind (wrap / get one’s mind around something, etc.), see (comprehension), waters (muddy the waters)
• computer: hack (get into), hack (fix), infect (computers), quarantine (v), scrape (v), surf (computers)
• concealment & lack of concealment: bare (lay bare), bare (laid bare), bare (v), betray (v), blend in (v), bury (conceal), cat (bell the cat), clean (come clean), cloak (conceal), come out (v), cover up (v), dredge up (v), erase (v), ground (go to ground), hide (hide behind something), launder (v), lay (lay bare), light (shed light), lock (lock something away), mask (hide), reveal (v), sanitize (v), scrub (remove), surface (bring to the surface), uncover (v), whitewash (v), wrap (take the wraps off something)
• condition & status: go (progress), knee (bring to one’s knees), limp (v)
• configuration: blanket (v), dot (v), dovetail (v), hover (numbers), hug (configuration), pancake (v), perch (v), punctuate (v), skirt (configuration), sprinkle (v), squeeze (fit), straddle (configuration)
• conflict: back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v), battle (v), blink (v), blood (smell blood), crash (v), collide, combat (v), fight (v), fire (a question, etc.), gauntlet (lay down a gauntlet), growl (v), hackles (raise hackles), head (butt heads), horn (lock horns), joust (v), roll over (v), slug (slug something out), spar (v), square off (v), stink (raise a stink), swing (take a swing), sword (cross swords), toe-to-toe (go toe-to-toe, etc.), wagon (circle the wagons)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bridge (cross that bridge), bypass (v), can (kick the can down the road), come forward (v), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), dust (collect dust), eye (turn a blind eye), face (look something in the face), fact (face facts, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), face up (face up to something), flinch (v), go (let something go), go around (v), grapple (v), grip (come to grips), hand (take matters into one’s hands), hand (sit on one’s hands), handle (deal with), juggle (v), lean in (v), look (look the other way), put up with (v), punt (v), rise (rise to the challenge, etc.), road (push something down the road), shrug off (v), shy (shy away), sidestep (v), sit (sit on one’s hands), sit by (v), skirt (skirt an issue, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), step in (v), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v), toss back (v), wrestle (v)
• consciousness & awareness: awaken (awareness), ball (take one’s eye off the ball), black out (v), cloud (v), come (see something coming), dawn (v), drift (consciousness), envision (v), fall (fall into a coma, etc.), keep up (awareness), map (drop off the map, etc.), radar (drop off the radar), see (see something coming), see (see through something), sight (lose sight), sink (sink into a coma, etc.), tuned (stay tuned), wake up (v)
• constraint & lack of constraint: bind (constrain), envelope (push the envelope), fly (constrain), hand (tie one’s hands, etc.), handcuff (v), hobble (v), hold back (obstacle), hostage (held hostage), jump (lines), limit (push the limits, etc.), loose (let loose), muzzle (v), overreach (v), overstep (v), unshackle (v), wing (clip / stretch one’s wings)
• consumption: breathe (consume), consume (consume), devour (devour the classics, etc.), digest (v), drink in (v), eat (consume), feed (fuel), feed (supply), gobble up (v), gorge (gorge on), imbibe (v), inhale (v), lap up (v), run out (v), stomach (accept), swallow (accept), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something)
• context: step (step back / perspective)
• control & lack of control: flinch (v), hand (get out of hand), handle (get a handle on something), handle (deal with), harness (v), head (keep / lose one’s head), herd (v), herd (ride herd), hijack (v), hijacked, horse (hold your horses), loosen (v), police (v), rein (rein in), shot (call the shots), spin (spin out of control), spiral (spiral out of control, etc.), string (pull strings), tame (v), usurp (v)
• corruption: blight (v), contaminate (v), curdle (corruption), infect (corrupt), poison (v), pollute (v), rot (v), sour (v), stink (v), swamp (drain the swamp), taint (v), tarnish (v), twist (v)
- cost & benefit: afford (v), cash in (v), cost (v), outweigh (cost and benefit), pay (benefit), pay (pay a price), pay off (v), profit (v), reward (v), spend (spend energy, etc.), toll (take a toll, etc.)
- courage & lack of courage: brave (v), chicken (chicken out), flinch (v), pants (scare the pants off somebody)
- cover: blanket (v), carpet (v), smother (cover)
- creation & transformation: breed (create), build (create), calve (v), carve out (v), churn out (v), cobble together (v), coin (v), concoct (v), cook up (v), drum up (v), embroider (v), fabricate (v), forge (v), germinate (v), gestate (v), grind out (v), hammer out (v), hash out (v), make up (v), mold (v), patch (patch together), plant (create), recast (v), reshape (v), shape (v), sow (v), spawn (v), spit out (v), squeeze (squeeze something for / from / out of something), stitch together (v), strike (strike a deal, etc.), translate (v), turn (transform), turn out (create), weaponize (v), weave (creation), wring (wring something from / out of something)
- curtailment: book (close the book), break off (v), cut off (v), dismantle (v), dissolve (terminate), fold (v), kill (v), kill off (v), plug (pull the plug), shut down (v), snuff (v), take down (v)
- danger: tread (tread carefully, etc.)
- decline: burn out (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), crater (v), crumble (v), descend (v), die down (v), dim (decline), erode (v), ebb (decline), eclipse (v), fade (v), fall (fall ill, etc.), fall (numbers), fall (money), fall (fall into chaos, etc.), fall off (v), grind (grind down), nosedive (verb / decline), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), sag (v), shrink (decline), shrink (v), sink (decline), slide (v), slip (v), slump (v), spiral (spiral downward, etc.), stagnate (v), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), wane (v), wilt (v)
- dependency: wean (v)
- destruction: back (break the back), blow up (destroy / disrupt), break (destroy), break down (destroy), bring down (v), buckle (give way), bulldoze (v), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), consume (destroy), crash (crash down), crumble (v), crush (destroy), crush (feeling and emotion), devour (destroy), disintegrate (v), drain (go down the drain, etc.), eat (destroy), evicerate (v), extinguish (v), fell (v), flatline (v), founder (v), gut (destroy), implode (v), kill (v), kill off (v), lacerate (v), nibble (destroy), pipe (go down the pipes), puncture (v), ruin (v), sabotage (v), scupper (v), scuttle (v), shatter (v), ship (sink the ship), sink (destroy), snuff (v), stamp out (v), steamroll (v), tear apart (v), tear up, topple (v), torpedo (v), trample (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble down (v), waste (lay waste), water (blow something out of the water), wrench (v), wrench (throw a wrench)
- development: book (close the book), corner (turn the corner), go (development), land (plane lands), lead (one thing leads to another), play (play out), progress (v), scale (tip the scales), stage (set the stage), stand (stand still / development), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tuned (stay tuned), turn (take a turn), turn out (develop), unfold (development), wane (v), wax (wax and wane)
- difficulty, easiness & effort: beaver (v), bend (bend over backwards), cat (bell the cat), coast (attain), drag (v), finger (lift a finger), gear up (v), grind (grind away, etc.), grind (grind down), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), hoop (jump through hoops), limits (push something to its limits), plow (plow through, etc.), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), sail (sail to victory, etc.), scramble (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), slave (v), slog (v), stop (pull out all the stops), waltz (attain), way (go out of one’s way)
- directing: channel (direct), drive (v), feed (direct), funnel (direct), goad (v), guide (v), herd (v), herd (ride herd), husband (v), inject (v), orchestrate (v), pilot (v), plow (put), pour (put), pump (direct), shepherd (v), shot (call the shots), siphon (v), steer (v), stage (v), surge (transitive verb), take (take somebody somewhere), whip (violence)
- direction: chart (v), corkscrew (v), course (change course, etc.), follow (a path, route, road, etc.), go (direction), head (into the future), lead (one thing leads to another), meander (v), mislead (v), move (direction), navigate (v), negotiate (terrain, etc.), plot (v), stray (direction), tack (v), way (lose one’s way), way (find one’s way)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: bench (v), blow off (v), boot out (v), brush (brush off), cast aside (v), cut off (v), dethrone (v), discard (v), dismantle (v), dissolve (terminate), drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), dump (v), erase (v), exorcise (v), fold (v), flush (remove), jettison (v), kick out (v), lift (amelioration), mothball (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), pasture (put out to pasture), plug (pull the plug), pull out (v), prune (v), retire (v), root out (v), scrap (v), scrape (v), shake (remove), shave (removal), shed (v), shelve (v), slash (v), step aside (v),
step down (v), strike down (v), strip (v), throw out (v), topple (v), toss out (v), trim (v), weed out (v), wind (throw something to the wind)

- disruption: blow up (destroy / disrupt), head (turn something on its head), house (clean house), overturn (v), rattle (disrupt), reel (v), revolutionize (v), rock (v), roll (v), scramble (disrupt), shake (disrupt), shake up (v), stagger (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), toe (step on toes), upend (v)

- division & connection: bind (connect), bridge (v), connect (v), drift (drift apart), embrace (v), hook up (connect), ice (break the ice), knit (knit together), reach (reach out), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), straddle (connect), thread (v), tie (v), tie together (v), touch (lose touch), weave together (v), wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)

- dominance & submission: back down (v), blink (v), bow (v), cower (v), kowtow (v), tail (turn tail)

- driving force: charge (lead the charge), drive (v), spearhead (v), way (lead the way)

- eagerness & reluctance: balk (v)

- enthusiasm: crave (v), pitch (promote), worship (v)

- equilibrium & stability: balance (v), lurch (v), reel (v), ship (right the ship, etc.), stumble (v), trip up (v), upend (v)

- euphemism: dust (bite the dust), skin (save one’s skin)

- evidence: betray (v), reveal (v), signal (v), sniff out (v), speak (evidence), suggest (indicate), wind (get / catch wind of something)

- experience: go (go through something), see (see action, etc.), taste (taste freedom, etc.)

- experimentation: toe (dip one’s toes), waters (test the waters)

- extent & scope: deepen (v), go (go big), ground (cover ground), sound (measure), stretch (extent), surface (scratch the surface)

- failure, accident & impairment: aground (run aground), ball (drop the ball), break down (functioning), buckle (give way), butcher (v), cave in (v), crack (v), crack (fall through the cracks, etc.), crash-land (v), crumble (v), derail (v), erode (v), fall apart (v), falter (v), fizzle (fizzle out), flatline (v), founder (v), fray (v), fumble (v), gas (run out of gas), gear (throw sand in the gears, etc.), grind (grind down), grind (grind to a halt), gum up (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), misdiagnose (v), overlay (v), pipe (go down the pipes), screw up (v), short-circuit (v), sink (sink into the mud, etc.), snap (v), split (v), split (split apart / up, etc.), sputter (v), stall (v), strain (v), stray (behavior), stray (direction), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), strike out (v), stumble (v), tarnish (v), trip up (v), tube (go down the tubes), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), tumble down (v), undermine (v), unravel (v), west (go west), wreck (v), wrench (throw a wrench)

- fate, fortune & chance: breath (hold one’s breath), bullet (dodge a bullet), cliff (fall off a cliff, etc.), finger (fingers crossed), fire (play with fire), flirt (v), gamble (v), grave (dig one’s grave), head (hold something over one’s head), limb (go out on a limb), line (tread a line, etc.), path (cross paths), shoe (a shoe can drop or fall), spell (spell disaster, etc.), teeter (v)

- feeling, emotion & effect: bask (v), beating (take a beating), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), bottle up (v), break down (feeling), bristle (v), bruise (v), buoy (v), burn out (v), burst (burst into tears, etc.), button (push a button), carry (carry me away, etc.), charm (v), chord (strike a chord), consume (emotions), cool (cool off, etc.), crack (verb / emotion), crush (feeling and emotion), dampen (v), darken (v), dazzle (v), deflate (emotion), dim (feeling), disintegrate (v), dissolve (emotions), eat (destroy), echo (verb / effect), electrify (v), erupt (feeling), explode (emotion), eye (bat an eye / eyelash), fall (fall into a rage, etc.), fire up (v), fly (fly into a rage, etc.), follow (follow a feeling or emotion), fume (v), galvanize (v), gnaw (v), go off (v), grate (v), hackles (raise hackles), harden (feelings), hat (hold on to your hat), head (keep / lose one’s head), head (keep one’s head up), hit (effect), hold (hold something in), hold back (restraint), home (hit home), home (feel at home), hurt (feeling and emotion), ice (break the ice), intoxicate (v), kick (kick in the teeth, etc.), lift (v), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), lock (lock something away), needle (move the needle, etc.), nerve (strike a

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 963 of 982
nerve, etc.), open up (emotions, speech, etc.), pall (cast a pall), raise (feeling), resonate (v), retch (v), reverberate (v), ripple (v), rock (v), roll (v), rub (rub somebody the wrong way), savor (v), seethe (v), set off (feeling and emotion), shake (disrupt), shatter (v), shock (v), sink (sink into despair, etc.), slide (v), smart (v), snap (v), sober (v), soothe (sensation), spell (cast a spell), spook (v), stack (blow one’s stack), stagger (v), steam (v), steam (blow / let off steam), stick (emotion), stomach (turn one’s stomach), stun (v), sting (feeling), swoon (v), sword (double-edged sword), sword (two-edged sword), teeth (gnash one’s teeth), temperature (raise the temperature), toe (step on toes), top (blow one’s top), touch (v), turn on (v), unwind (v), vent (v), warm (v), wind down (relax), wow (v)

- fictive communication: address (v), call for (a recipe can call for something), invite (v), read (a sign can read something), say (a sign can say something, etc.), speak (speak to something), tell (data can tell us something, etc.), warn (a sign can warn, etc.)

- fictive meeting & seeing: encounter (difficulties, etc.), face (face anger, etc.), find (a date can find us, etc.), meet (something can meet you), see (a date can see, etc.), stare (stare at defeat, etc.), stumble (stumble across / on / upon)

- fictive motion: climb (roads, etc.), cross (a bridge can cross), follow (a road can follow, etc.), go (a road can go, etc.), meander (v), run (a road can run, etc.), snake (a trail can snake), wind (wind its way)

- fictive position: sit (a house can sit somewhere, etc.), stand (a lamp can stand, etc.), straddle (configuration)

- fictive possession: capture (v), grab (v), hold (verb / possession), hold (take hold), seize (v)

- fictive transportation: carry (carry me away, etc.), ride (ride on something), take (take somebody somewhere)

- flaws & lack of flaws: fray (v), polish (v), smear (v), stain (v), stretch (v), stumble (v), stumble (stumble over one’s words), water (hold water)

- flood: jump (rivers can jump their banks)

- force: defang (v), elbow (force), knock out (verb), muscle (v), push (force), steam (pick up steam, etc.), steam (lose steam), steam (take the steam out, etc.), storm (v), teeth (take the teeth out), traction (gain / build / get traction)

- functioning: break down (functioning), click (v), cripple (v), gum up (v), hum (hum along), misbehave (v), paralyze (v), sputter (v), stall (v), wrench (throw a wrench)

- future: approach (v), bring (future), come (future), come (see something coming), come up on, coming (in the coming months, etc.), head (into the future), hold (future), lie (lie ahead), look (look forward to something, etc.), see (see something coming), see (future)

- giving, receiving, bringing & returning: bring (v), dish out (v), fork over (v), furnish (give), gift (v), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), hand over (v), offer (v), pepper (v), rake in (v), turn in (give)

- group, set & collection: pool (v)

- growth & development: bloom (v), blossom (v), branch out (v), cultivate (v), flourish (v), flower (v), germinate (v), gestate (v), graduate (v), ground (get off the ground), grow (grow the economy, etc.), hold (take hold), leg (grow legs), mature (v), nurture (v), plant (create), revolutionize (v), sow (v), take off (v), thrive (v)

- haste: scramble (v)

- help & assistance: finger (lift a finger), lend (lend a hand, etc.), pitch in (help)

- hitting, slamming & lashing: bash (v), batter (v), beat (beat down), beat up (v), kick (kick one’s butt, etc.), knock out (v), lash (v), pound (v), pummel (v), slam (v), strike (forces of nature), strike (tragedy, etc.), thrash (v)

- hyperbole: retch (v), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.), skin (jump out of one’s skin), slave (v)

- idea: brainstorm (v)

- importance & significance: fetishize (v), revolutionize (v), trail (blaze a trail), venerate (v), worship (v)

- impression: etch (v)

- inauguration: drop (v), launch (v), roll out (v), unveil (make public), wrap (take the wraps off something)

- inclusion & exclusion: freeze out (v)

- increase & decrease: accelerate (v), amplify (v), balloon (v), big (v), blow up (attention / verb), boom (increase), boost (v), boost (n), build up (v), burnish (v), climb (increase), crank up (v), dial (dial down / back),

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 964 of 982
escalate (v), explode (increase), fan (v), feed (fuel), fuel (v), gear up (v), grow (increase), harden (increase), heighten (v), inflame (v), inflate (v), jack up (v), jump (increase), kindle (v), level off (v), mount (v), nosedive (verb / decrease), oil (pour oil), pile on (increase), pile up (v), plummet (decline / decrease), plunge (decline / decrease), pump up (v), ramp up (v), ratchet up (v), rebound (v), rev up (v), rocket (increase), sharpen (v), shoot (shoot up), shrink (downsize), skyrocket (increase), slip (v), snowball (v), soar (v), spike (increase), spiral (downward or upward), step up (increase), stoke (v), surge (intransitive verb / increase), swell (v), turbocharge (v), turn up (increase), up (increase), wane (v), wax (wax and wane)

- initiation: blow up (attention / verb), blow up (emotion), boil (initiation), boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), burst (burst into violence, etc.), detonate (v), erupt (v), explode (emotion), explode (initiation), explode (increase), fan (v), flare (v), flare up (v), flow (increase), fuel (v), galvanize (v), go off (v), hatch (v), ignite (v), inflame (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick-start (v), kick up (v), kindle (v), launch (v), life (spring to life), Pandora’s box (open a Pandora’s box, etc.), percolate (v), re-ignite (v), rekindle (v), scale (tip the scales), seethe (v), set off (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), spark (v), spur (v), stir (v), stir up (v), stoke (v), swirl (v), take off (v), trigger (v), trigger (pull the trigger), unleash (v)
- insult: nose (thumb one’s nose)
- involvement: chime in (v), dive in (v), drag (drag somebody into something), ensnare (v), get (get into something), head (get in over one’s head, etc.), jump (jump in), leave (leave something alone), plunge (plunge into something), snare (v), step in (v), stumble (stumble into something), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something), throw (throw oneself into something), toe (dip one’s toes), wade (wade in / into), wallow (v), weigh in (v)
- isolation & remoteness: insulate (v)
- judgment: frown (v), muster (pass muster), nod (agree), smile (v), sword (fall on one’s sword), triage (v), weigh (analyze)
- knowledge & intelligence: learn (v)
- leaking: bleed (v), drain (v), leak (v), leak out (v)
- location: pinpoint (locate)
- measurement: calibrate (adjust), sound (measure)
- message: barnstorm (v), drum (beat / bang the drum), proselytize (v), sell (promote), tout (v)
- movement: barrel (v), bounce (v), churn (move), corkscrew (v), dance (resemblance), dart (dart about), drift (move), duck (v), fishtail (v), flood (move), flow (move), jump (movement), ping-pong (v), pour (in, into, out, etc.), roll (move), roll in (v), seep (v), snake (a trail can snake), stream (move), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), trickle (trickle in / out), wash in (v), weave (move)
- obligation: owe (v), pay (obligation), repay (v)
- obstacles & impediment: bypass (v), go around (v), hold back (obstacle), hoop (jump through hoops), jump (lines), mud (sink in the mud), run (run into something), sidestep (v), snarl (v), stand (stand in the way), stonewall (v), stumble (v), way (get out of the way)
- occurrence: see (a date can see, etc.), strike (tragedy, etc.)
- oppression: bear (a weight, etc.), blackball (v), blacklist (v), bully (v), burden (v), crack down (v), darken (v), get out (get out from under), goad (v), lord over (v), pall (cast a pall), railroad (v), saddle (oppress), smother (oppress), squeeze (put the squeeze on something), strangle (v), suffocate (v), throat (ram something down the throat), weigh (oppress), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- orientation: upstage (v)
- origin: come (come from)
- past & present: back (go back in time, etc.), backtrack (go back in time), back up (v), circle back (v), clock (turn back the clock), go (time), look (look back), walk (walk somebody back)
- perception, perspective & point of view: background (fade into the background), color (v), greet (v), ring (ring false, etc.), see (perceive), step (step back / perspective), view (v), waters (muddy the waters), zoom (zoom out)
- performance: play (v), stage (v), stage-manage (v)
- portal: threshold (cross the threshold)
• position, policy & negotiation: budge (v), haggle (v), sit down (v), stance (take a stance), stand (position), straddle (straddle the fence), table (come back to the table), table (turn the tables)

• possession: cling (v), fall (fall into the hands, etc.), fork over (v), hand over (v), hang on to (v), hijack (v), hold (verb / possession), hold on (possession), own (v), own (make something one’s own), seize (v), stake out (v), surrender (v), trade (v), usurp (v)

• power: flex (muscle, etc.), hand (strengthen one’s hand), leverage (v), lord over (v), muscle (v), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), turbocharge (v), weight (put / throw one’s weight behind something), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)

• predation: blood (smell blood), circle (predation), heel (nip at somebody’s heels), jugular (go for the jugular), lurk (v), pounce (v), prey (prey on somebody), prey (fall prey to something), stalk (v), victim (fall victim to something)

• presence & absence: loom (loom large, etc.)

• pressure: screw (tighten the screws), wall (walls close in)

• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: bring (bring back), bring down (v), dethrone (v), dim (primacy), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), go (come and go), live on (v), lose out (v), outshine (v), overshadow (v), overthrow (v), overturn (v), own (v), pasture (put out to pasture), sink (sink into obscurity, etc.), step down (v), topple (v), wane (v), wax (wax and wane), way (give way to something), way (go the way of something)

• product: bear (bear fruit, etc.), harvest (v), reaping (v)

• progress & lack of progress: advance (v), catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), circle (go in circles), climb (progress), corner (turn the corner), forward (move forward, etc.), go (progress), ground (gain ground), ground (lose ground, etc.), jump (progress), keep up (progress), leapfrog (v), level off (v), limp (v), look up (v), march (march ahead, etc.), move (progress), move (move up), mud (sink in the mud), needle (move the needle, etc.), nowhere (go nowhere, etc.), plod (v), progress (v), stall (v), stand (stand still / progress), stumble (v), tail (chase one’s tail), traction (gain / build / get traction), turn back (v), vault (v), wall (hit a wall), wind (wind it way)

• protection & lack of protection: ground (go to ground), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), hack (get into), harbor (v), harden (protect), head (keep one’s head down), inoculate (v), insulate (v), quarantine (v), shelter (v), wagon (circle the wagons)

• proximity: door (knock at / on the door), home (hit home), shadow (follow)

• punishment & recrimination: beat (beat oneself up), book (throw the book at somebody), coal (raze somebody over the coals), crack down (v), flog (criticize), hand down / out (punishment, etc.), key (throw away the key), kick (kick oneself), tar (tar and feather, etc.)

• pursuit, capture & escape: capture (v), catch up (pursuit), chase (v), court (v), dragnet (cast a dragnet), ensnare (v), fish (v), go (go after somebody / attack), ground (go to ground), hunt (v), hunt down (v), lure (v), nail (nail somebody), net (cast a net), poach (v), pursue (pursue a dream, etc.), reel in (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scent (throw somebody off the scent), seduce (v), smoke out (v), snare (v), stalk (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), track (cover one’s tracks), track down (v), trail (follow), trawl (v), troll (v), woo (v)

• readiness & preparedness: ambush (v), brace (v), ground (prepare the ground), guard (lower one’s guard), guard (keep one’s guard up), pants (caught with one’s pants down), punch (beat somebody to the punch), rehearse (v)

• reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: bed (put something to bed), behind (put something behind), blow over (v), book (close the book), exorcise (v), get (get through something), get (get over something), ghost (bury the ghost), go (let something go), hatchet (bury the hatchet), move on (resiliency), nail down (settle), rest (put something to rest), settle down (v), sleep (put something to sleep), wrap up (v)

• reference: see (refer to)

• relationship: sneeze (v)

• repetition: echo (verb / effect), echo (repeat), mirror (v), parrot (v)

• representation: banner (carry a banner), stand for (v), torch (carry a torch)

• reputation: mud (drag something through the mud), smear (v), stain (v)
• resemblance: belch (v), dance (resemblance), paint (resemblance), pour (resemblance), slice (road slices, etc.), snake (a trail can snake), spit (spit down), spit (v), stream (tears stream, etc.), thunder (speech), wake (resemblance), yawn (v)

• resilience: behind (put something behind), bounce back (v), carry on (v), come back (v), dig (dig out), get (get through something), get (get over something), go on (v), head (keep one’s head up), hold on (survival), pick (pick oneself up), piece (pick up the pieces), punch (roll with the punches), push (push on), put (put something back together), rebound (v), soldier (soldier on)

• resistance, opposition & defeat: back (get one’s back up, etc.), back down (v), balk (v), barricade (storm the barricades), beat back (v), bend (v), bow (v), buck (v), buckle (give way), budge (v), cave in (v), combat (v), come out (against something), counterattack (v), dig in (v), fall (defeat), fight (v), fold (v), foot (put one’s foot down), give in (v), give up (stop trying), ground (give ground), ground (hold / stand one’s ground), heel (dig in one’s heels), howl (v), kick (kick one’s butt, etc.), knee (bring to one’s knees), kowtow (v), lie down (v), move (move an inch, etc.), punch (punch back), push back (v), put up with (v), revolt (v), rise (resistance), roll over (v), sell out (v), speak out (v), squeal (protest), stand (resist), stand (last stand, etc.), stand up (stand up to something), stare down (v), stonewall (v), surrender (v), tail (turn tail), take on (v), tide (buck the tide), towel (throw in the towel)

• responsibility: live up to (something), man up (v), plate (step up to the plate), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), step in (v), sword (fall on one’s sword)

• restraint & lack of restraint: end (go off the deep end), envelope (push the envelope), hand (get out of hand), hand (overplay one’s hand), help (keep from, avoid), hold back (restraint), inebriate (v), limit (push the limits, etc.), limits (push something to its limits), overreach (v), overstep (v), punch (pull a punch), stop (stop at nothing)

• revenge: pay (revenge), score (settle a score, etc.)

• reverence: enshrine (v), venerate (v), worship (v)

• reversal: backfire (v), backpedal (v), backtrack (reversal), bell (unring a bell), bite (bite back, etc.), blow up (blow up in one’s face), boomerang (v), climb down (v), course (reverse course), face (blow up in one’s face), flip (v), gear (switch gears), overturn (v), retreat (reverse), ricochet (v), roll back (v), table (turn the tables), tail (turn tail), tide (turn the tide, etc.), tune (change one’s tune), tune (change in tune), walk back (v)

• sacrifice: sacrifice (give up something)

• sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: anoint (v), beatify (v), buck (v), enshrine (v), frown (v), green light (v), playing field (level the playing field), sign (sign off), smile (v), tide (buck the tide)

• searching & discovery: comb (v), come up with (discovery), dig (dig deeper, etc.), dig (dig in / into), dig out (v), dig (dig through), dig up (v), dredge up (v), exhume (v), explore (discover), glean (v), light (come to light), light (bring something to light), look (look for), look (look into something), mine (search), rake up (v), rock (turn over every rock, etc.), scour (v), scout (v), scrape (v), stone (turn over every stone, etc.), sift (searching), sniff out (v), stumble (stumble across / on / upon), track down (v), trawl (v), turn up (discover), uncover (v), unearth (v), unfold (discover), unlock (v), unravel (unravel a mystery, etc.), winnow (v)

• sequence: jump (jump ahead), punch (beat somebody to the punch), step (step back / sequence)

• sensation: gnaw (v)

• sex: pants (get in somebody’s pants)

• sight: eye (v)

• situation: out (want out)

• social interaction: back (scratch somebody’s back), ball (play ball), connect (v), go (go along), see (visit / meet), wheel (grease the wheels)

• sound: bark (v), drown out (v), growl (v), howl (v), ring out (a shot rang out, etc.), snarl (speech), squeal (protest)

• speech: badger (v), bark (v), bash (v), blast (v), chime in (v), clean up (speech), coal (rake somebody over the coals), crow (v), cut off (speech), fire (fire back), gaslight (v), grill (v), growl (v), gush (v), howl (v), jump (speech), lash out (v), lay (lay into), mince (v), muzzle (v), needle (v), pander (v), pontificate (v), preach (v),
• speed: accelerate (v), dart (dart about), downshift (v), plod (v), race (hurry), rocket (speed), streamline (speed up), turbocharge (v), zip (v)

• starting, going, continuing & ending: accelerate (v), ahead (go ahead, etc.), balk (v), ball (get the ball rolling, etc.), bed (put something to bed), bell (unring a bell), blow over (v), bow out (v), break off (v), carry on (verb), die (survival), die out (end), downshift (v), drop (drop a case, etc.), drop out (v), embark (embark on something), escalate (v), falter (v), fold (v), gas (run out of gas), go on (v), grind (grind away, etc.), grind (grind to a halt), grind on (v), ignite (v), jump-start (v), kick in (start), kick off (v), kick-start (v), kick up (v), launch (v), level off (v), life (spring to life), live on (v), move on (resiliency), move on (change the subject, etc.), play (play out), plow (plow through, etc.), pull back (v), pull out (v), push (push on), reboot (v), reign (v), rekindle (v), reset (v), rest (put something to rest), ring in (the New Year, etc.), roll (v), saddle (saddle up), set out / off (v), smolder (v), soldier (soldier on), stall (v), stand down (v), step down (v), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stride (hit one’s stride), tee off (v), tick on (v), track (stop something in its tracks), traction (gain / build / get traction), wind down (v), wrap up (v)

• strategy: bypass (v), card (play one’s cards), gamble (v), go around (v), hand (force someone’s hand), sidestep (v)

• strength & weakness: beef up (v), cement (v), defang (v), teeth (take the teeth out), turbocharge (v), water down (v)

• substance & lack of substance: flesh out (v), life (bring to life), light (make light of something), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), teeth (sink one’s teeth into something), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)

• subterfuge: bypass (v), gaslight (v), go around (v), launder (v), outfox (v), punch (sucker punch / verb), scent (throw somebody off the scent), see (see through something), sidestep (v), track (cover one’s tracks), trail (throw somebody off the trail)

• success & failure: choke (fail), conquer (v), fall through (v), home run (swing for a home run, etc.), jackpot (hit the jackpot), kill (verb / accomplishment), let down (fail), nail (nail something), nail down (gain), pan out (v), strike out (v), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)

• sufficiency, insufficiency & excess: brim (v)

• superiority & inferiority: circle (run circles around somebody), drown out (v), dwarf (v), eclipse (v), eclipse (n), loom (loom large, etc.), outpace (v), outshine (v), outweigh (power), overshadow (v)

• superlative: light up (v)

• supplying: feed (supply), fuel (v), serve up (v)

• survival, persistence & endurance: alive (keep something alive), bail out (save), bring (bring back), carry on (v), cement (v), cling (v), die (survival), dig (dig out), drown (v), get (get through something), get (get over something), go (go through something), go on (v), hack (hack something / endurance), hold on (survival), life (give life), limits (push something to its limits), live on (v), punch (roll with the punches), put up with (v), push (push on), remain (v), rescue (v), resuscitate (v), revive (v), ride out (v), save (v), scrape by (v), sink (sink into debt, etc.), skin (save one’s skin), soldier (soldier on), stand (stand the test of time, etc.), stick (emotion), stick (stick to / by / with something), stick (endurance), storm (weather the storm), swim (v), take (endure), water (keep one’s head above water), water (tread water), weather (survive)

• taking & removing: chip away (v), grab (v), hijack (v), loot (v), milk (v), poach (v), rob (v), snatch (v), steal (steal customers, etc.), usurp (v), wire (wring something from / out of something)

• target: aim (take aim at something), gun (v), target (v), zero in on (v)

• taxonomy & classification: curate (v)
• throwing, putting & planting: cast (cast doubt), cast (light), cast (other), catapult (v), heap (v), hurl (v), inject (v), launch (v), plant (put), plant (create), plow (put), pour (put), sink (put), sow (v), sown (planted), spew (vomit), throw out (v), thrust (v)

• time: crawl (speed), go (time), spare (a minute to spare, etc.), spend (time), stand (stand still / time), time (buy time, etc.), time (steal time, etc.), time (run out of time), time (waste time), time (use time), time (time has passed)

• timeliness & lack of timeliness: bridge (cross that bridge), gestate (v), ship (ship has sailed, etc.), spare (a minute to spare, etc.), streamline (speed up), time (run out of time), time (waste time), train (train has left the station, etc.)

• transmission: echo (repeat), jump (transmission), leap (transmission), reverberate (v), rub off (v), sneeze (v), stream (direct)

• transportation: cart (cart off), haul (v)

• unanimity & consensus: go (go along), line (toe a line, etc.), line up (v), march (together, etc.), pile on (consensus), pull (pull together), rank (close ranks), rank (break ranks), stand (stand as one, etc.), suit (follow suit), team up (v)

• violence: brainwash (v), cleanse (violence), crack down (v)

• warning: cat (bell the cat), whistle (blow the whistle), wolf (cry wolf)

• wants, needs, hopes & goals: aim (v), crave (v), dream (v), pander (v), pray (v), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.), way (get one’s way)

• work & duty: beaver (v), plow (plow through, etc.), post (abandon one’s post), pull (pull together), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), slave (v), strain (v), weight (pull one’s weight)

• worth & lack of worth: pan out (v), profit (v), sift (searching), table (bring something to the table), winnow (v)

VERB TO NOUN (2)

• concealment & lack of concealment: reveal (big reveal, etc.)

• failure, accident & impairment: fail (a stunning fail, etc.)

• help & assistance: thanks (n)

• wants, needs, hopes & goals: ask (big ask)

VIOLENCE (1)

• allusion: Lord of the Flies

• animal: dove (n), hawk (n), hawkish (adj), termite (n)

• bird: dove (n), hawk (n), hawkish (adj)

• blood: bloodbath, mist (red mist)

• boxing: bare-knuckled (adj), glove (the gloves are off)

• epithet: butcher (Butcher of Baghdad, etc.)

• head: brainwash (v), brainwashed

• history: medieval (adj)

• hygiene: brainwash (v), brainwashed, cleanse (violence), cleansing (ethnic cleansing), cleanup (military), scum (insult)

• insect: termite (n)

• sword: sword (violence)

• verb: brainwash (v), cleanse (violence), crack down (v)

• whip: crack down (v)

VIOLENCE (2) (see also oppression; revenge)

• accusation & criticism: assassination (character assassination), bash (v), beaten (beaten up), crucified, crucify (v), lash out (v), pillory (v), pilloried, pummel (v), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)

• affliction: scourge (n), torture (afflict), torture (affliction), tortured, waterboarding (n)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: bus (throw somebody under the bus), wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
• attention, scrutiny & promotion: drum (beat / bang the drum)
• coercion & motivation: arm-twisting, clampdown, crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), goad (v), strong-arm (v), waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
• competition: cutthroat
• conflict: bear (bear pit), bearbaiting, bloodbath, feud (n), fighter (street fighter), gladiator (n), vendetta, warrior (n)
• destruction: coup de grace (deathblow), rape (v), rape (n)
• directing: goad (v), whip (violence)
• disruption: Jacobin
• fate, fortune & chance: coup de grace (deathblow), head (heads will roll, etc.)
• feeling, emotion & effect: punch (effect), torturous
• hitting, slamming & lashing: backlash, bash (v), bashing (n), batter (v), beat (beat down), beat up (v), clobbered, clout (n), lash (v), pummel (v), pummeled, punch (force), slam (v), thrash (v), thrashed, trounced, whip (resemblance)
• judgment: hanging (hanging offense), inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.)
• meat: butcher (n)
• oppression: crackdown (n), crack down (v), cudgel (n), Gestapo (Gestapo of Patterson, etc.), goad (v), inquisition (n), lynching (media lynching, etc.), reign of terror / fear, etc., waterboarding (n), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n), witch-hunt
• power: clout (n)
• punishment & recrimination: crackdown (n), crack down (v), flog (v), hanging (hanging offense), head (heads will roll, etc.), tar (tar and feather, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: backlash
• revenge: vendetta
• reversal: backlash
• speech: assassination (character assassination), bash (v), bashing (n), cheap shot, lash out (v), lay (lay into), slam (v), tar (tar and feather, etc.), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: coup de grace (deathblow)
• strength & weakness: fighter (street fighter)
• success & failure: scalp (n)
• whip: crack down (v)

VOCATIVE (1)
• animal: pet (vocative)
• baby: baby (vocative)
• heart: sweetheart (vocative)
• taste: Honey, sweetheart (vocative)

VOCANO (2) (see also earthquake; ground, terrain & land; landslide; mountains & hills)
• amelioration & renewal: vent (v)
• amount & effect: erupt (v), eruption, tremor (n)
• effect: tremor (n)
• epithet: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
• evidence: tremor (n)
• feeling, emotion & effect: top (blow one’s top), vent (v), volcanic
• initiation: erupt (v), eruption, tremor (n)
• pressure: volcano (pressure)
• ruins: Pompeii (Pompeii of the East, etc.)
VULTURE (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; wolf)

• behavior: vulture (n)

WALKING, RUNNING & JUMPING (2)

• action, inaction & delay: step in (v), tackle (v)
• activity: scramble (v)
• allegiance, support & betrayal: highway (my way or the highway), jump (move), step (every step of the way), vote (vote with one’s feet, etc.), walk (walk away from something)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: chase down (v), walk (walk somebody through something)
• attenuation: lame (lame excuse, etc.)
• avoidance & separation: back away (v), bypass (v), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), end run (n), flee (v), go around (v), run (run away), sidestep (v), step (step back from something), walk (walk away from something)
• behavior: overstep (v)
• coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: jump (move), parade (n)
• commitment & determination: leap (commitment), walk (walk the walk)
• competition: front-runner, jump (get the jump), outpace (v), pace-setter, step (a step ahead / competition), race (hurry)
• condition & status: limp (v)
• confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: bypass (v), can (kick the can down the road), dance (dance around something), dodge (v), end run (n), go around (v), road (push something down the road), sidestep (v), step up (v), step up (rise to the occasion), tackle (v)
• consciousness & awareness: keep up (awareness)
• constraint & lack of constraint: hamstrung, hobble (v), hobbled, jump (lines), overstep (v)
• consumption: run out (v)
• control & lack of control: highway (my way or the highway), runaway
• danger: landmine, minefield, pitfall (n), tread (tread carefully)
• decline: race (race to the bottom), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble)
• difficulty, easiness & effort: marathon (effort), park (walk in the park), scramble (v), slog (v), slog (long hard slog, etc.), walkover (n)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: step aside (v), step away (v), step down (v)
• disruption: reel (v), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.)
• driving force: pace-setter
• eagerness & reluctance: jump (jump at the chance, etc.), leap (leap into action, etc.), pounce (v), spring (spring into action, etc.)
• equilibrium & stability: footing (find one’s footing, etc.), lurch (v), reel (v), stride (in stride), stumble (v), stumble (n), trip up (v)
• failure, accident & impairment: falter (v), jump (jump a curb, etc.), misstep (n), stride (knock somebody off stride, etc.), stumble (v), stumble (n), tumble (decline), tumble (take a tumble), trip up (v)
• fate, fortune & chance: leap (commitment), line (tread a line, etc.)
• fictive motion: go (a road can go, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)
• flaws & lack of flaws: lame (lame excuse, etc.), misstep (n), stumble (v), stumble (stumble over one’s words)
• flood: jump (rivers can jump their banks)
• future: run (run into next week, etc.)
• group, set & collection: parade (n)
• growth & development: lag (progress)
• haste: run (on the run / haste), scramble (v)
• increase & decrease: jump (increase), jump (n), leap (leaps and bounds)
• initiation: jumping-off place / point
• involvement: jump (jump in), step in (v), stumble (stumble into something)
• movement: jump (move), jump (movement), run (a road can run, etc.)
• obstacle & impedance: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), hurdle (n), jump (lines), run (run into something), sidestep (v), stumble (v), stumble (n), stumbling block, way (get out of the way)
• past & present: walk (walk somebody back)
• predation: pounce (v)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: step down (v)
• progress & lack of progress: catch up (catch up to something), catch up (catch up with something), jump (progress), jump (in jumps), keep up (progress), lag (progress), leap (v), leapfrog (v), limp (v), limp (n), march (n), march (march ahead, etc.), plod (v), step (a step forward), step (a step in the right direction), step (a step back / backwards), step (baby steps, etc.), stride (progress), stumble (v), stumble (n), stumbling block, vault (v)
• proximity: step (a step away), step (a step closer)
• pursuit, capture & escape: chase (v), step (step ahead / pursuit)
• resemblance: dance (resemblance), leap (the leap of a waterfall, etc.), run (a road can run, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: run (on the run / retreat)
• responsibility: step in (v), step up (rise to the occasion)
• reversal: walk back (n), walk back (v)
• route: go (a road can go, etc.)
• searching & discovery: stumble (stumble across / on / upon)
• sequence: jump (jump ahead), step (first step, etc.), step (step back / sequence), walk (crawl, walk, run)
• society: life (from walks of life), life (in walks of life), life (walks of life)
• speech: jump (speech), stumble (stumble over one’s words)
• speed: crawl (speed), crawl (n), leap (leaps and bounds), pace (at a pace), pace (speed), plod (v), race (hurry)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: falter (v), jump (get the jump), jumping-off place / point, pass (v), run (run into next week, etc.), running (continuing), step (first step, etc.), step down (v), stride (hit one’s stride), track (stop something in its tracks), track (stopped in one’s tracks)
• strategy: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
• subterfuge: bypass (v), end run (n), go around (v), sidestep (v)
• superiority & inferiority: circle (run circles around somebody), outpace (v)
• survival, persistence & endurance: running (continuing)
• throwing, putting & planting: leap (n)
• time: long-run (adj), race (time), run (in / over the long run)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: jump (get the jump)
• transmission: jump (transmission), leap (transmission)
• unanimity & consensus: highway (my way or the highway), lockstep (in lockstep), march (together, etc.), step (in step), step (out of step)

**WALL (2)**
• constraint & lack of constraint: wall (constraint)
• division & connection: wall (obstacle)
• obstacles & impedance: stonewall (v), wall (obstacle)
• pressure: wall (walls close in)
• progress & lack of progress: wall (hit a wall)
• resemblance: wall (wall of flames, etc.)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: stonewall (verb)
• surveillance: wall (the walls have ears)

**WANTS, NEEDS, HOPES & GOALS (1)**
• addiction: crave (v)
• allusion: El Dorado, pander (v)
• Bible: grail (holy grail)
• creature: creature comfort
• food & drink: crave (v), feed (satisfy), hunger (n), hungry (adj), ravenous (adj), starved, stomach (food), taste (taste for violence, etc.), thirst (n)
• health & medicine: crave (v)
• heart: heart (goal)
• history: El Dorado
• Middle Ages: grail (holy grail)
• money: prize (n), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.)
• religion: grail (holy grail), pray (v)
• sleep: dream (n), dream (v)
• sex: lust (n), pander (v)
• taste: taste (taste for violence, etc.)
• verb: aim (v), crave (v), dream (v), pander (v), pray (v), sell (sell one’s soul to the devil, etc.), way (get one’s way)
• verb to noun: ask (big ask, etc.)

WAREHOUSE (2)
• amount: warehouse (amount)
• environment: warehouse (neglect)

WARNING (1) (see also evidence; message)
• allusion: cat (bell the cat), wolf (cry wolf)
• animal: cat (bell the cat), watchdog (n), wolf (cry wolf)
• boat: shot (shot over the bow, etc.)
• cat: cat (bell the cat)
• consciousness & awareness: wake-up call
• direction: heads-up (warning)
• dog: watchdog (n)
• flags & banners: red flag
• head: heads-up (warning)
• military: sentinel (n)
• person: sentinel (n), whistleblower (n)
• sign, signal, symbol: red flag, sign (warning sign)
• sleep: wake (wake-up call)
• sound: alarm (warning), bell (warning), whistle (blow the whistle), whistleblower
• verb: cat (bell the cat), whistle (blow the whistle), wolf (cry wolf)
• weapon: shot (shot over the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot)
• wolf: wolf (cry wolf)

WASTE (2) (see also cost & benefit; worth & lack of worth)
• analysis, interpretation & explanation: garbage (data)
• configuration: littered
• insult: talk (trash talk)
• primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: dustbin (n)
• speech: talk (trash talk)
• resemblance: confetti
• worth & lack of worth: dustbin (n), garbage (waste), junk (worth), trash (n)
WATER (2)

- ability & lack of ability: depth (out of one’s depth)
- absorption & immersion: absorb (a country, etc.), absorb (books, culture, etc.), absorbed, immerse (v), immersed, immersion, sink in (v), soak up (v), soaked, sponge (n), steep (v), steeped, suck up (v), sunk in
- access & lack of access: tap (v), tap (n), tap into (v)
- activity: boil (initiation), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), swirl (v)
- amelioration & renewal: fountain (fountain of youth), plug (v), plugged (fixed)
- amount: aquifer (n), reservoir (amount)
- amount & effect: awash, cascade (n), clogged, deluge (n), deluged, drenched, drip (drip-drip), flood (amount), flood (flood of refugees, etc.), flooded, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), floodtide, floodwaters, inundate (v), inundated, Niagara (the river and falls), outpouring, pour (in, into, out, etc.), river (amount and effect), spill (amount and effect), stream (amount & effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), swamped, tide (rising tide), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), wave (in a wave), wave (amount & effect), whirlpool (in a whirlpool), whirlpool (other)
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: boil (boil down to something), dive (deep dive)
- appearance & disappearance: bubble up (v), dissolve (v), dissolve (break up), dissolve (fade away), dry up (v), emerge (v), emerging (adj), evaporate (v), surface (v), surface (bring to the surface)
- appearance & reality: surface (on the surface), surface (under the surface)
- attention, scrutiny & promotion: splash (effect)
- attenuation: dampen (v), diluted (weakened), drained (attenuation), water down (v), watered down
- bases: boil (boil down to something)
- behavior: end (go off the deep end)
- branching system: stream (bloodstream, etc.)
- certainty & uncertainty: murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)
- character & personality: buoyant (personality)
- coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: wash up (v)
- comprehension & incomprehension: eureka (eureka moment, etc.), murky (adj), sunk in, unfathomable, waters (muddy the waters)
- concealment & lack of concealment: surface (under the surface), surface (bring to the surface)
- conflict: turbulence
- consciousness & awareness: frog (frog in boiling water)
- constraint & lack of constraint: floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other), spigot (n)
- consumption: absorb (books, culture, etc.)
- control & lack of control: fluid (adj)
- corruption: pollute (v), polluted, swamp (fever swamp), swamp (drain the swamp)
- curtailment: dissolve (terminate), plug (pull the plug)
- danger: waters (dangerous waters, etc.)
- decline: stagnant (adj), stagnate (v), washed-up
- development: wave (wave of the future, etc.)
- directing: channel (direct), channeled, drip-fed (v), funnel (direct), infusion (n), pour (put), pump (direct), pumped (directed), siphon (v)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: dissolve (terminate), dissolved, filter (v), flush (remove), plug (pull the plug), swept away (removal)
- disruption: roil (v)
- effect: ripple (v), ripple (n), splash (effect)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environment:</th>
<th>fishbowl (in a fishbowl), fishbowl (other), frog (frog in boiling water), sea (in a sea), sea (environment), swamp (fiver swamp)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experience:</td>
<td>baptism, baptized, depth (out of one's depth), feet (get one's feet wet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimentation:</td>
<td>toe (dip one's toes), waters (test the waters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent &amp; Scope:</td>
<td>deep (extent and scope), deepen (v), depth (extent), shallow, sound (measure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure, Accident &amp; Impairment:</td>
<td>belly flop (n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeling, Emotion &amp; effect:</td>
<td>boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), buoy (v), buoyant (feeling), buoied, dampen (v), dissolve (emotions), drained (feeling), drip (drip-drip), ripple (v), ripple (n), roll (v), seethe (v), splash (effect), swept away (emotion), wave (effect)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flaws &amp; Lack of Flaws:</td>
<td>turbulent (turbulent childhood, etc.), water (hold water), watertight (adj)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future:</td>
<td>tap (on tap)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group, Set &amp; Collection:</td>
<td>pool (v), pool (people), pool (things)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase &amp; Decrease:</td>
<td>buoyant (strong), flow (increase), surge (intransitive verb / increase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiation:</td>
<td>boil (initiation), boiling point, boil over (v), brew (activity), bubble (v), bubble up (v), bubbling (adj), percolate (v), seethe (v), simmer (v), simmering (activity), springboard (n), swirl (v)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Involvement:</td>
<td>deep (in deep), dive in (v), end (go off the deep end); head (get in over one's head, etc.), immerse (v), immersed, immersion, plunge (plunge into something), plunge (involvement), toe (dip one's toes), wade (wade in / into), water (deep water)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation &amp; Remoteness:</td>
<td>bubble (isolation), shell (protection)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaking:</td>
<td>drain (v), drain (n), leak (v), leak (n), leaked, leak out (v), spigot (n)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurement:</td>
<td>sound (measure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement:</td>
<td>cascade (v), deluge (n), flood (move), flow (move), flow (n), gush (n), river (amount and effect), seep (v), spill (v), stream (amount &amp; effect), surge (n), surge (intransitive verb / effect), swamp (v), tide (other), torrent (n), trickle (n), trickle (trickle in / out), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstacles &amp; Impedance:</td>
<td>clog (n), clogged, floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past &amp; Present:</td>
<td>bridge (water under the bridge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perception, Perspective &amp; Point of View:</td>
<td>murk (in / amid the murk), murk (other), murky (adj), waters (muddy the waters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portal:</td>
<td>floodgate (open the floodgates), floodgate (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proper Name:</td>
<td>wave (Wave Rock, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconciliation, Resolution &amp; Conclusion:</td>
<td>bridge (water under the bridge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resemblance:</td>
<td>cascade (a cascade of hair, etc.), flowing, fountain (resemblance), lake, pour (resemblance), stream (tears stream, etc.), stream (resemblance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restraint &amp; Lack of Restraint:</td>
<td>end (go off the deep end)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Route:</td>
<td>channel (distribution channel, etc.), channel (through channels), conduit, stream (bloodstream, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Searching &amp; Discovery:</td>
<td>sound (measure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence:</td>
<td>wake (in the wake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shape:</td>
<td>funnel (shape), wave (shape)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Situation:</td>
<td>deep (in deep), frog (frog in boiling water), hot water (in hot water), hot water (into hot water), water (in deep water)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound:</td>
<td>drowned out (v), drowned out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source:</td>
<td>aquifer (n), fountain (source), fountainhead, reservoir (source), well (source), wellspring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech:</td>
<td>gush (v), spill (speech)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting, Going, Continuing &amp; Ending:</td>
<td>dissolved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength &amp; Weakness:</td>
<td>water down (v), watered down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance &amp; Lack of Substance:</td>
<td>bubble (n), deep (extent and scope), frothy (substance), shallow (adj)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Success &amp; Failure:</td>
<td>dry (come up dry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sufficiency, Insufficiency &amp; Excess:</td>
<td>overflowing (adj)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superiority &amp; Inferiority:</td>
<td>drowned out (v), drowned out</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A Dictionary and Thesaurus of Contemporary Figurative Language and Metaphor Page 975 of 982
survival, persistence & endurance: afloat, buoyed, depth (out of one’s depth), drown, lifeline, sink (sink into debt, etc.), sinking, sink or swim, swim (v), underwater (adj), water (keep one's head above water), water (tread water)

throwing, putting & planting: infusion (n), pour (put), sink (put)

time: depth (depths of winter, etc.)

transmission: stream (direct), streamed (digital), streaming (digital), streaming (streaming media)

WAVE (2) (see also sea; tide; tsunami)

amount & effect: groundswell, swamp (v), tidal wave (in a tidal wave), tidal wave (other), tide (rising tide), tsunami, wave (in a wave), wave (amount & effect)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: wash up (v)

decline: washed-up (adj)

development: wave (wave of the future, etc.)

feeling, emotion & effect: wave (effect)

movement: swamp (v), wash in (v), wave (amount and effect)

primacy, currency, decline & obsolescence: washed-up (adj)

proper name: wave (Wave Rock, etc.)

shape: wave (shape)

WEAPON (2) (see also as; blade; knife; sword) (see also explosion; fortification; military)

accusation & criticism: ammunition, attack (under attack, etc.), attack (n), blast (v), broadside (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire), fire (fire back), flak (criticism), fusillade (n), go (go after somebody / attack), gun (criticism), potshot (n), salvo (n), shot (criticism), snipe (v), sniping (n)

action, inaction & delay: trigger (pull the trigger)

amount: arsenal (amount), battery (amount)

amount & effect: barrage (n), blitz, blockbuster, bombard (v), bombarded, bombardment (n)

attempt: shot (attempt), shot (best shot)

behavior: cannon (loose cannon), hotshot (n)

campaign: blitz

certainty & uncertainty: surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)

character & personality: cannon (loose cannon), hotshot (n)

coercion & motivation: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (hold a gun to one’s head, etc.)

coming, arriving, staying, leaving & returning: boomerang (n)

competition: duel (n), dueling (adj)

computer: bomb (code bomb)

conflict: arm (up in arms), attack (under attack, etc.), blowup (conflict), crossfire (n), duel (n), dueling (adj), fire (a question, etc.), outduel (v), shoot-out (n), shot (opening shot), shot (parting shot), shot (warning shot)

configuration: scattershot (adj)

control & lack of control: cannon (loose cannon), shot (call the shots)

creation & transformation: weaponization (n), weaponize (v)

danger: bomb (danger), booby trap, landmine, minefield, powder keg, tripwire (danger)

destruction: coup de grace (deathblow), deathblow

difficulty, easiness & effort: target (easy target)

directing: shot (call the shots)

driving force: spear (tip of the spear), spearhead (v), spearhead (n)

eagerness & reluctance: gun-shy

evidence: smoking gun

extent & scope: scattershot (adj)

failure, accident & impairment: dud (n)
• fate, fortune & chance: bullet (dodge a bullet), coup de grace (deathblow), gun (under the gun), long shot, Russian roulette, shot (chance)
• feeling, emotion & effect: blockbuster, blown away, blow up (emotion), explode (emotion), shrapnel (n), smitten (effect)
• flaws & lack of flaws: bulletproof (adj), surefire (a surefire investment, etc.)
• group, set & collection: arsenal (amount), quiver (n)
• help & assistance: armed, arsenal (amount), weapon (help)
• hitting, slamming & lashing: smitten
• increase & decrease: shoot (shoot up)
• initiation: blow up (emotion), blowup (conflict), explode (emotion), fuse (n), hair-trigger, trigger (n), trigger (v), trigger (pull the trigger), tripwire (initiation)
• movement: dart (dart about)
• oppression: billy club, cudgel (n), gun (under the gun)
• power: big shot
• proper name: Aegis Combat Systems
• protection & lack of protection: aegis (n), armor (protection), shield (n), target (easy target)
• resistance, opposition & defeat: blowback
• reversal: backfire (v), blowback, blow up (blow up in one’s face), boomerang (v), ricochet (v)
• shape: bullet (shape), bull's-eye (shape)
• speech: blast (v), broadside (n), fire (criticism), fire (under fire), fire (draw fire), fire (fire back), fusillade (n), salvo (n), shoot (speech), shoot (speech), shoot (shoot back), shooter (straight shooter), shot (criticism), shot (parting shot), snipe (v), sniping (n), volley (n)
• speed: bullet (velocity), dart (dart about)
• starting, going, continuing & ending: coup de grace (deathblow)
• strength & weakness: big gun (and heavy gun), weapon (secret weapon)
• success & failure: blockbuster, dud (n), hit (success), target (moving target), target (hit the target), target (miss the target, etc.)
• target: aim (take aim at something), aimed, bull's-eye (target), cross hair (in the cross hairs), gun (v), mark (off the mark), sight (in somebody's sights), sight (sights), target (v), target (n), targeted, zero in on (v), zone (target zone)
• timeliness & lack of timeliness: target date
• wants, needs, hopes & goals: aim (v), aim (n)
• warning: shot (shot over the bow, etc.), shot (warning shot)

WEATHER & CLIMATE (2) (see also lightning; rain; storm; wind)
• consciousness & awareness: blizzard (consciousness), fog (fog of war, etc.), fog (mental fog, etc.), foggy
• environment: atmosphere (in / within an atmosphere), atmosphere (atmosphere of trust, etc.), climate (environment), microclimate, weather (environment)
• epithet: mother (Mother Nature)
• progress & lack of progress: drought (in a drought), spell (in a dry spell), spell (into a dry spell), spell (throughout a dry spell), spell (dry spell / other)

WEDGE (2)
• division & connection: wedge (drive a wedge, etc.)
• driving force: wedge (edge of the wedge)
• configuration: wedged

WEIGHT (2) (see also burden)
• affliction: bear (burden), burden (v), burden (n), heavy (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weighted down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
allegiance, support & betrayal: weight (put / throw one's weight behind something)
amelioration & renewal: get out (get out from under), lift (amelioration), lighten (lighten things up, etc.)
amount: heavy (amount), ounce (amount), pound (amount), ton (amount)
analysis, interpretation & explanation: weigh (analyze)
cost & benefit: outweigh (cost and benefit)
development: scale (tip the scales), straw (the last straw)
difficulty, easiness & effort: back (carry something on one’s back)
dismissal, removal & resignation: lift (amelioration)
effect: punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
failure, accident & impairment: straw (the last straw)
feeling, emotion & effect: heart (heavy heart), heavy (emotion), heavy-hearted (adj), lighten (lighten things up, etc.), light-hearted (adj), straw (the last straw)
heart: heart (heavy heart), heavy-hearted, light-hearted (adj)
history: baggage, freighted
importance & significance: weighty
initiation: scale (tip the scales), straw (the last straw)
involved: weigh in (v)
judgment: weigh (analyze)
oppression: baggage, bear (burden), burden (n), burden (v), fall (weight), freighted, get out (get out from under), heavy (oppression), heavy-handed, saddle (oppress), saddled, shoulder (oppression), straw (the last straw), weigh (oppress), weigh down, weight (oppression), weight (under the weight)
power: heavyweight (n), outweigh (power), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (put / throw one’s weight behind something), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.)
responsibility: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (fall on the shoulders)
substance & lack of substance: gravity, heavyweight (n), heft (n), light (make light of something), lightly (take something lightly), lightweight (n), punch (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weight (substance), weight (punch above one’s weight, etc.), weighted, weighty (substance)
superiority & inferiority: outweigh (power)
time: haul (for the long haul)
work & duty: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone), weight (pull one’s weight)

WELCOME (1)
arm: arm (open arms)
carpet & rugs: mat (welcome mat), red carpet (treatment)
house: home (feel at home)
royalty: red carpet (treatment)

WHEAT (2) (see also farming & agriculture; plant, tree)
content: grist (grist for the mill, etc.)
searching & discovery: winnow (v)
worth & lack of worth: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (verb)

WHIP (2)
accusation & criticism: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
affliction: scourge (n)
coercion & motivation: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
directing: whip (violence)
hitting, slamming & lashing: backlash, lash (v), thrash (v), thrashed, whip (resemblance)
oppression: crackdown (n), crack down (v), whip (violence), whip (crack the whip), whip hand (n)
- person: whipping boy (person)
- punishment & recrimination: crackdown (n), crack down (v), flog (criticize), whipping boy (person)
- resemblance: whip (resemblance)
- resistance, opposition & defeat: backlash
- reversal: backlash
- speech: lambast (v), lash out (v), tongue-lashing, twitter-lashing (n)
- violence: crack down (v)

**WIND (2) (see also air; atmosphere; sky) (see also lightning; rain; storm; weather & climate)**
- activity: whirlwind (n)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: wind (dangle in the wind)
- amelioration & renewal: air (breath of fresh air)
- amount & effect: downdraft, storm (amount and effect), tempest (n), whirlwind (n)
- control & lack of control: drift (control), whirlwind (ride the whirlwind, etc.)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: wind (throw something to the wind)
- division & connection: drift (drift apart)
- driving force: wind (wind of change, etc.)
- evidence: wind (get / catch wind of something)
- feeling, emotion & effect: hat (hold on to your hat)
- flaws & lack of flaws: tempestuous (adj)
- help & assistance: tailwind (n)
- movement: drift (move)
- obstacles & impedance: headwind (n)
- progress & lack of progress: doldrums (n)
- reconciliation, resolution & conclusion: blow over (v)
- starting, going, continuing & ending: blow over (v)

**WINDOW (2)**
- acceptance & rejection: window (Overton window)
- appearance & disappearance: window (out the window)
- dismissal, removal & resignation: window (out the window)
- portal: window (window to the West, etc.)
- substance & lack of substance: window dressing
- target: window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)
- timeliness & lack of timeliness: window (window of opportunity), window (launch window, etc.)

**WOLF (2) (see also animal; bird; cat; cow; dog; fish; fox; frog; horse; insect; lion; rat; sheep; snail; snake; tiger; vulture)**
- affliction: heel (nip at somebody’s heels)
- allegiance, support & betrayal: wolf (throw somebody to the wolves)
- appearance & reality: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
- behavior: rabid, rabidly, wolf (predation)
- competition: pack (competition)
- predation: heel (nip at somebody’s heels), lone wolf, wolf (n), wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
- society: lone wolf
- subterfuge: wolf (wolf in sheep’s clothing)
- warning: wolf (cry wolf)

**WORK & DUTY (1)**
- animal: beaver (v), rat race
• boat: hand (all hands on deck)
• burden: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), pull (pull together), strain (v), weight (pull one's weight)
• dismissal, removal & resignation: retire (v)
• farming & agriculture: plow (plow through, etc.), row (row to hoe)
• food & drink: plate (one one's plate)
• foot: foot soldier (duty)
• hand: hand (work), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck)
• history: slave (v)
• horse: workhorse (n)
• mechanism: grind (daily grind, etc.), treadmill (n)
• military: foot soldier (duty), post (abandon one's post), soldier (soldier on)
• person: foot soldier (duty), hand (worker), hand (all hands on deck), servant (n), slave (modern-day slave, etc.)
• rat: rat race
• shoulder: shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone)
• skin, muscle, nerves & bone: strain (v)
• sports & games: game (stock market game, etc.)
• verb: beaver (v), plow (plow through, etc.), post (abandon one’s post), pull (pull together), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), slave (v), strain (v), weight (pull one’s weight)
• weight: lifting (heavy lifting), load (work), shoulder (shoulder the burden, etc.), shoulder (shoulder to the grindstone), weight (pull one’s weight)

**WORTH & LACK OF WORTH (1) (see also cost & benefit; waste)**

• allusion: fool’s errand
• animal: cow (cash cow), white elephant
• color: white elephant
• cows & cattle: cow (cash cow)
• creature: unicorn (rarity)
• epithet: gold (black gold, etc.)
• family: favorite son, illegitimate (adj), stepchild (weakness)
• farming & agriculture: commodity, fruitful (adj)
• fruits & vegetables: fruitful (adj), plum (desirable)
• gift: gift (benefit)
• ground, terrain & land: dirt (worthless), fool’s gold, pay dirt
• hygiene: filthy (bad), scum (insult)
• magic: curse (n)
• manufacturing: run-of-the-mill
• meat: meat (piece of meat)
• mining: bonanza (n), fool's gold, gold (worth), gold (black gold, etc.), gold mine, gold rush, karat (24-karat), pan out (v), pay dirt
• money: bankrupt (adj), bonanza (n), currency (worth), gold rush, pay off (v), payoff, prized, profit (v), rich (rich land, etc.), stock (worth), treasure (worth), treasured (worth), treasure house, treasure trove (and trove), wealth (amount)
• person: stepchild (weakness)
• plant: fruitful (adj)
• religion: blessing (benefit), curse (n)
• speech: joke (it’s a joke, etc.)
• table: table (bring something to the table)
• tools & technology: sift (searching)
• tree: deadwood, windfall (n)
• verb: pan out (v), profit (v), sift (searching), table (bring something to the table), winnow (v)
• waste: dustbin (n), garbage (waste), junk (worth), trash (n)
• wheat: chaff (separate the wheat from the chaff), winnow (v)
• writing & spelling: box (tick all the boxes, etc.)

**WOUNDS & SCARS (2) (see also health & medicine; skin, muscle, nerves & bone)**
- affliction: scar (v), scar (psychological scars, etc.), scarred (afflicted), scarring, unscathed (adj), wound (n)
- flaws & lack of flaws: scar (blemish), scarred (battle-scarred, etc.)

**WRESTLING (2) (see also baseball; basketball; boxing; cards; chess; gambling; sports & games)**
- accusation & criticism: take down (v), takedown (n)
- confronting, dealing with & ignoring things: grapple (v), wrestle (v)
- restraint & lack of restraint: no-holds-barred

**WRITING & SPELLING (2) (see also books & reading; letters & characters)**
- analysis, interpretation & explanation: spelled out, spell out (v)
- concealment & lack of concealment: erase (v), erased
- dismissal, removal & resignation: erase (v), erased, write (write out)
- evidence: signature, written (written on it, etc.)
- fate, fortune & chance: handwriting (on the wall), spell (spell disaster, etc.)
- sanctioning, authority & non-conformity: sign (sign off)
- worth & lack of worth: box (tick all the boxes, etc.)

**ZOO (2)**
- environment: zoo (environment)
- group, set & collection: zoo (group)