

The Vocabulary Builder: Introduction to the Text

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The primary purpose of The Vocabulary Builder is to provide you with the widest, most thorough and comprehensive source available for expanding your vocabulary. Filling over fourteen-hundred pages (printed at 1-1/2 space), it provides more words and more complete definitions than are otherwise available, and the root derivation of each word. Watching a word at its work is the laboratory of practical application, thereby easing the process of learning. Therefore, every vocabulary word in this book is provided with sentences illustrating the word's usage.

I have gone to three sources for these illustrative sentences for this vocabulary book. First is the established repertory of English-language literature. Those sentences will sign off with the author's name, with the exception of Shakespeare, whose plays are attributed by title. The other two sources are about evenly divided between periodicals and my own. I have paraphrased or otherwise altered many of the sentences from periodicals. Some will have the year of origin indicated, simply as a point of interest to the reader.

The Vocabulary Builder comprises ten broad sections representing the big picture, "the forest." Each section is composed of synonym-groups of subject-words ("the trees"). The first section, for example, is titled Intellectual Processes. Of the many synonym groups within the first Section, the first group is headed BEING-ESSENCE. Under the heading BEING-ESSENCE, the words listed and then considered in detail (decoction, ontology, quiddity, quintessence, reify, etc) are all synonyms of *being* or *essence* or of both. Since most words have several meanings, some effort is made to include them in as many groups as appropriate. But usually I describe each word within only one synonym group, the one closest to the word's most literal or most prevalent use. (Exceptions are those words that must be described within more than one group because they have other meanings sufficiently different to justify two or more descriptions). Reference is made to the word's other entries. Within the group ESSENCE, at *decoction* the reader is instructed to (see EXTRACT). That is because, while *decoction* is a synonym of essence, it fits better and will be discussed under the heading entitled EXTRACT. Although *gravamen* is a synonym of BEING-ESSENCE, it fits even better, and so is described, under SUBSTANCE. *Quiddity*, described under the heading BEING-ESSENCE, has this reference to its two other appropriate (but not as important) listings: (cf. Fastidious; Quibble).

Since The Vocabulary Builder is organized in synonym groups, you can find a word to fit a concept you have in mind by looking up the appropriate synonym group or groups. There you'll see the word that

expresses most exactly the idea you intend. Now you can study it and learn it. Therefore, a secondary use for this book is as a thesaurus for the reader or writer who wants a deeper source than that of Roget. However, the primary purpose of The Vocabulary Builder is to provide the most panoramic vocabulary-building text in English. Its intention is to improve writing and speech skills—to improve all forms of verbal fluency through an expanded vocabulary. Unlike a thesaurus, The Vocabulary Builder teaches you the derivation (the heritage) and definitions of all subject words, and nails down your learning with sentences exemplifying the usage of these words. It was constructed to expand your ability to augment and hone your ideas. The Vocabulary Builder is not just for students who want to “ace” the verbal portion of the next SAT or entrance exam. Its purpose is to extend your capacity for finer nuances of thought. This sharpens your understanding of what you read and hear and enhances your conversation and writing skills by affording you greater fluency in thinking, expression and persuasion. The Vocabulary Builder is equipped to improve all skills of communication.

MARKINGS and ABBREVIATIONS

Markings

[brackets: author’s explanations and emendations]	< derivation Def. definition
(parentheses: original source)	- example sentences
{author’s opinions & comments}	= defined as, means [3] sample fits Def. 3. [] within sample sentences: encloses explanation, not part of text.

Abbreviations

Am. = American	LME. = Late Middle English
Dan. = Danish	MDu. = Middle Dutch
dim. = diminutive	ME. = Middle English
Du. = Dutch	MFr. = Middle French
Ec. or Eccles. = Ecclesiastic	MHG. = Middle High German
Eng. = English	MLowG = Middle Low German
esp. = Especially	n. = noun

Fl. = Flemish	Norm. = Norman
Frank. = Frankish	Norw. = Norwegian
Fr. = French	OE. = Old English
freq. = frequentative (verbal form, as wrestle, the freq. of wrest	OFr. = Old French
G. = German	OHG. = Old High German
Gmc. = Germanic	OG = Old German
Gram. = Grammar	ON = Old Norse
Gk. = Greek	orig. = Originally
Heb. = Hebrew	part. = participle
Ice. or Icel. = Icelandic	Per. = persian
IE: Indo-European	pl. = plural
impv. or Imper. = Imperative	prp. = present participle
infl. = influenced	Scand. = Scandinavian
It. or Ital. = Italian	Sansk. = Sanskrit
Ir. = Irish	Scot. = Scottish
L. = Latin	sing. = Singular
lit. = literally	Sp. = Spanish
LL. = Late Latin	Sw. or Swed. = Swedish
ML. = Medieval Latin	v. = Verb
	vi. = Intransitive verb
	vt. = transitive verb
	{ } = my own conjectures

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Emphasized syllable indicated by ‘ prior to the syllable:

a as in father; o as in copy, yonder, ponder: **ah** (of [ahv])

a as in cat, man: **a** (mendacity [men ‘da si tee]; loquacity: [loh ‘qua si tee])

a as in day, age; ai as in claim: **ay**

a as in all, fall, awe, awful, law; o as in off, doll, hog, bog, volume; ou as in cough: **aw** (see o as in off)

air as in air, fair; first a in parallel; are in care; ere in there; **air** (bear, bare [bair])

-able as in acceptable, capable, syllable, electable: **əb’l** or **able**

-age as in storage, bandage, courage, image: **age** (or) **ij**

ar as in car, far, par, argument,: **ar** (guard [gard] alarm [ə larm]).

-ary as in literary, library, dictionary: **ary**

-ary as in plenary: **ə ree**

a in ago, about; e in poetry, first o in connection: **ə** 399

c as in cat: **k**

c as in city: **s**

ch as in change: **ch**

e as in feet, speech; ea as in speak: **ee**

e as in wet, bet, get, first e as in register, ea in head, stead: **e** (epithet [e ‘pi ‘thet];
heather [‘he TH’r]; heavy [‘he vee])

g as in get: **g**

g as in general, George, page: **j**

gl as in single, tangle: **gl**

i as in like, I-pad, kind, lime; igh as as in right: **I** (guy: [gI]; nice: [nIs]; tide: [tId]; aye [I])

i as in fit, **i** (so: fear [fir], beer [bir], mere [mir], Sere-Sear [sir])

-ia as in Virginia: **ia**

-ance: ns; -nance: **nəns**

-ial as in tutorial: **ial** or: **ee əI** (unless otherwise marked as in *espial*)

-ian as in Californian, Italian, Virginian: **ian** (or) **ee ən**

-iar as in familiar: **iar** or **y’r**

-ible as in accessible; admissible: **ible**

-iel as in spaniel: **yƏl**

-ion as in onion, union, dominion: **ion** (or) **yƏn**

-ion as in ganglion: **ee Ən**

-ing:: **ing**

-ism: **ism** or **izm**

-logy [lƏ jee] as in antilogy, -ology as in biology: **logy**, **ology**, (or) **‘ah lƏ jee**

o as in hope: **oh**

o as in hop, operation, hockey, copy, deposit, of; a as in father; ah as in “Say ah”: **ah**

o as in off, doll, hog, bog, volume; aw as in awful; ou as in cough; a as in all: **aw**; (off [awf];

flaw [flaw]; Boston [‘baws tƏn]; awesome [‘aw sƏm])

o as in mother, other, honey, money, son; u as in but, us: **u**

oo as in book, cook, look, foot, wood, nook; ou in would, could: **oo**

oo as in too, to, cool, food, roof, boot; u as in rude dude: **U**

ou as in out, about; ow as in how, cow, owl: **ow** (sound [sownd])

or as in for, lore, core: **or** (cohort [‘koh hort]; discourse [‘dis kors])

-ology as in biology: **ology**, (or) **‘ah lƏ jee**

-ory as in pillory, history: ory (or) Ə ree; **-tory** in peremptory: **tory**

-ory as in story, inventory: **‘or ee** (or) ‘consonant: **‘tor ee** (revelatory [‘rev Ə lƏ ‘tor ee])

oy as in boy, joy: **oy** (coin [koyn])

oil as in oil: **oil**

on as in on, upon: **on**

ph as in photo: **f**

qu as in quick, quibble: **qu** (qu sounds consistently the same as kw; therefore kw is not necessary)

r: dropped vowels before r: i as in sir, u as in fur; o as as in work; e as in paper: **‘r**

sir: s’r, fur: f’r; work: w’rk; paper: ‘pay p’r; lumber: ‘lum b’r;

hunter-gatherer: ‘hun t’r – gaTH ‘r ‘r; shopper: ‘shah p’r.

s as in sure; sh as in shame, ch as in brochure, Chevrolet: **sh**

th as in throw, thing, thanks: **th** (epithet [‘e pi ‘thet]; apothegm [‘ap oh ‘them])

th as in those these, there, that: **TH** (weather [‘we TH’r])

-tial as in potential, essential, substantial: **‘tial**

-tion as in situation: [sounds like ‘shun’ but is consistent:] **tion** or **shun**

-tious: **tious** or **shōs**

u as in rude, oo as in too, cool, food, roof; ew as in chew: **U** (rude, rood [rUd], chew [chU])

u as in but, us, up, rum, cut; ough in tough; o in mother, son, honey: **u**

u as in union, you as in you: **yU** (venue [‘ven yU]; you [yU])

wh as in when, what, where, etc: **wh** or **hw** (the sound is hw)

x or ex as in extra, Alex, Alexandria; **x** (unless it’s the first letter in a word, x sounds consistently the same as ks; therefore ks not required)

ya as in yam, Yankee: **ya**;

ye as in yes, yet: **ye**

yea as in yea: **yay**

y as in yonder: **yah**

y: as in you, youth; u as in union: **yU**

y as in yeoman: **yoh**

y as in young: yuh; y as in beyond: yah; y as in yellow: **ye**

z as in zebra; s as in his, these, deposit: **z**

s as in lesion, decision; g as in liege; ge as in garage, espionage, mirage, entourage: **zh**

Dropped vowels: last e in speeches; a in textual; last e in registered;

e as in finished, channel, a as in political: ’ (apostrophe): textu’l, register’d, finish’d, chann’l, etc.

Words that derive from or are French that end with –an –en –in –on –un are unique to French:

English pronunciation given, then “or as in French.”

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8. POINT-COUNTERPOINT-LEAD-RESPONSE-RECIPROCATION
9. DISPUTE-OPOSE BY ARGUMENT-DEBATE-CONTRADICT
10. CERTAINTY
11. VALIDITY-FIDELITY TO IDEAL or TRUTH
12. REFUTATION-FALSEHOOD-PROVE FALSE
13. ARTIFICIAL-FAKE-COUNTERFEIT-IMITATION
14. INVALID-FAULTY REASONING-CONTRADICTION
15. ERROR
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20. IMAGINATION-CREATIVITY-VISIONARY-FANCY
21. CAUSE-EFFECT
22. CHANCE-WITHOUT CAUSE
23. KNOWLEDGE- SKILL-EXPERT
24. LOGIC-REASON-REASONING
25. IGNORANCE
26. SCHOLARSHIP
27. INSTRUCTION-TEACHING- LEARNING-SCHOOL
28. AWARENESS-HEED-ATTENTION-ALERTNESS
29. DRAW FROM-DRAW OUT-EXTRACT
30. CALL UPON-BRING FORTH-SUMMON-APPEAL TO
31. PUT INTO-INSTILL-IMPRINT-PERMEATE
32. INTRODUCE-SET FORTH-PUT FORWARD

33. AFFIRM-ASSERT-PROFESS-DECLARE
34. OCCULT-SECRET -CONCEALED
35. PUZZLE-MYSTERIOUS
36. ILLUSION
37. REVEAL-KNOWN-CLARIFY-MAKE KNOWN
38. REMOVE-ERADICATE-DELETE
39. EXAMINE-SEARCH-ANALYZE-INVESTIGATE
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1. BEING-ESSENCE (cf. Essential-Substantial)

decoction (see EXTRACT)

élan vital (see GERMINATE)

gravamen (see SUBSTANCE)

ontology

quiddity (cf. Fastidious; Quibble)

quintessence (cf. Representation)

raison d'être (see PURPOSE)

reify

simulacrum (see NOT AUTHENTIC)

solipsism (cf. Self; Individual-Singularity)

sui generis (see UNIQUE)

Ontology: [awn 'tah logy]

< Gk. Einei = to be, + On-Ontos > Onto- = being, existence + Logos: a word, saying, speech, etc. < -logy = discourse, spoken or written.

Def. 1. the branch of metaphysics that studies the nature of reality, existence or being as such, as distinct from material existence, spiritual existence, etc., [as opposed to Phenomenology]. 2. metaphysics.

{think of ontology as the exploration of how two things differ—how one thing's *being* differs from another—when one would expect them to be the same}.

- It is logical to pursue both disarmament and civil rights, provided the two don't get into each other's way for ontological reasons. Witness their peaceful coexistence in Japan and West Germany. 1977.

- [Owner of theme park Heritage] learned a lot from Disneyworld, but the architectural and ontological confusion of Heritage-USA would not have been tolerated by Disney. Nothing in Heritage was quite what it seemed.

- If they [political faction] rely on this kind of faith in the people and in the ontological power of the truth—and refuse to be distracted by the antics of demagogues—they can complete their ascendancy.

- Because Down syndrome is determined at conception and leaves its imprint on every cell of the person's body, it raises ontological questions. Is this person less than he would be without Down syndrome? We wonder what might have been. But a Down person's life never had any other trajectory. G. Will.

- For [important newspaper] to criticize itself is ontologically inconceivable.

- He, like many other memoirists, is in rapture at the sheer ontological brilliance—the biological majesty—of Being Me.

Quiddity: (see also FINE DISTINCTION; cf. Quibble) [‘quid itee]

< L. Quid = what.

Def. 1. the essential quality or nature of a thing; that which makes a thing what it is; essence. 2: a trifling nicety of subtle distinction; quibble.

- In this drama he [author] narrows his focus to a vision of life in its quiddity.

- The definitions of the quiddity of the elements are not in the power of man, though many of their effects are known. Leonardo da Vinci.

- Where do you start if you’re an academic philosopher in search of the quiddity of humbug?

- The work of human knowledge is to discover the "form," that is the formal cause, the essence or quiddity that constitutes that nature or property. Bacon: De Augmentis Scientiarum.

- Instructors who influenced my undergraduate growth were highly unorthodox. For instance, there was the economics professor who “ommed” during lectures. A historian faced with a contrary viewpoint would lean over the lectern and drawl “That ain’t nothin’ but a batch of BS.” Such professors face opposition when the subject of tenure comes up. Their quiddities militate against them.

- How now, how now mad wag! What, in thy quips [sharp jests] and thy quiddities {subtleties of speech—Falstaff referring to Hal's puns}, what a plague have I to do with a buff jerkin [leather jacket worn by sheriff’s men]? First Henry IV: I-ii-51.

- Why may not that be the skull of a lawyer? Where be his quiddities [subtleties, quibbles] now? Hamlet V-1-107.

- The individual is forced to share, consent to, or obey a panoply of laws, norms, and regulations not only in his or her relationships, but in solitude. As a result of social orthodoxy and political authority, the quiddity and attendant rights of the private sphere are now determined publicly by the state. Vaknin.

- The quiddity of his poetry is elaborate symbolism.

- Hugh MacDiarmid tried to reach out through language (especially Scottish dialects) to a way of expressing the uncanny quiddity of natural objects and their relation to human feelings.

- At the center of every poetic imagination is a cluster of key images that go back to the poet's childhood. In Keats's case, one can learn more about his quiddity by pursuing images of fever and ooze than by analyzing his literary sources.

- In a time when many playwrights are hell-bent on reducing life's dilemmas to their sparest parts, panhandling for quiddity, these two serve up a copious celebration of life.

- The market is the great broker of human supply and demand. No demand is keener than for food to sustain life. If one tenth of the money Latin America spends on arms were spent on corn, hunger there would cease to exist. The quiddity of it all (world hunger) is the challenge to marketplace mechanisms. Buckley.

Quintessence (cf. Representation) [quint 'es ens]

< Med. L. Quinta Essentia = fifth essence.

Def. 1. (in ancient and medieval philosophy) the fifth essence or element, ultimate substance or ether, supposed to be the constituent matter of the heavenly bodies and latent in all things (the other four being air, fire, earth and water). 2. the pure and concentrated essence of a substance, or of anything. 3. the most perfect embodiment of something; the most perfect manifestation of a quality or thing.

- His image for many is the quintessential old-style Washington fat cat.

- That quintessentially nasal nabob, George Plimpton.

- [Actress] is a bit much for a three-hour movie, she being the quintessence of effervescence.

- [Brown and McFarley are famous rivals]. There may be a conflict of interest in that the prosecutor [of McFarley] is the quintessence of the Brown establishment.

- The Fifth Amendment's Takings Clause (extended to the states through the Fourteenth Amendment) is a quintessential constitutional shield, artfully and specifically rejecting the idea that government can seize property "without just compensation," regardless of what public good is accomplished by the taking.

Reify: ['ree iff]

< L. Res: thing + Facere > -ficare: to do, make, i.e. cause to be, render.

Def. 1. to convert into or regard as a concrete thing. 2. to treat an abstraction as substantially existing or as a material object.

- Some poetry can be seen as an attempt to reify philosophical abstractions.

- A commitment to human rights, or to mankind, is a venerable one, and efforts to reify that commitment are such as the U.N. Convention on Human Rights.

- After the fall of Viet Nam, the domino theory became brutal reality so quickly that its reification passed almost without notice.

- Jim Jones's followers believed "Dad" would help them build a society free of strife. They ended up giving their lives in return for an ideal reified in the jungle of Guyana.

- During the [] war, when a U.S. president announced a defense agenda he had no intention of pursuing, then far from outwitting the [enemy], he went far in the direction of reifying their latent domination over Western policy.

- Proving such principles as this [maxim of political philosophy] requires reifying them into "policies" to be applied to current affairs.
- He settled in Dallas, a city that was his philosophy and personality reified: booming, brave and patriotic.

Solipsism: (cf. Self; Individual-Singularity) ['sawl ip sizm]

< L. Solus: alone + Ipse = self.

Def. (Philos.) 1. the theory that only the self exists, or can be proven to exist. 2. the theory that the self can be aware of nothing but its own experience and states: hence, that nothing exists or is real but the self.

-Hesse's *The Glass Bead Game* makes it clear that Hesse advocates thoughtful commitment over self-indulgent solipsism.

- Awareness of pure being, simply a pure awareness, as if a solipsism.

- Are we surprised that some primitive cultures have never heard of us and our remote controls? As if these cultures are exotic and we are not. Solipsism is us (if you'll excuse the bad grammar).

- I have a friend who said, "I'm so solipsistic that when I pass a garbage dump I think I stink." Lionel Tiger.

- Since the mid '90s cyberspace and hand-held devices have produced a solipsistic time sink that makes television watching seem like a social event.

- A hedonistic self-concerned, culture of solipsistic individuals is hardly one to discourage drug abuse.

- He was a solipsistic political figure who confused self and office, aggrandizing both to the point that both were ultimately demeaned.

- President X's administration is staffed by beltway solipsists: nothing beyond the beltway exists.

- There emerged a sense that "our" insights can be shared and understood only by our members, our kind. Unless one is a Pentecostalist, an Orthodox Jew, a woman, an Anglo Saxon, a black, a yogi, a youth, an "ethnic," one whose consciousness has been shaped in a particular way, he or she remains an idiot in the original sense of the word, an ignorant outsider. This breaks down communication, resulting in group solipsism.

- Young love is a fanaticism inhabiting a region somewhere between the silly and the metaphysical. I [well-known writer] understand the territory well: its shimmering landscapes, its enclosing solipsism, the profound magic by which children suddenly acquire passion.

- The protagonist would be a solipsistically inward character, mildly insufferable, if it were not for the extraordinary grace of the author's prose.

- In the early 21st century, you can construct your own multimedia community, in which every magazine you read, every cable show you watch, every radio station you listen to, reaffirms your values and reinforces the sense of your own rightness. It is possible, maybe even inevitable, that you will slide into a solipsism that allows you precious little contact with people totally unlike yourself.

- Until a more traditionalist voice in art is heard from, the arts may become even more psychotic, solipsistic, and divorced from any relevance to humanity.
- The theme of the poem is the rejection of solipsism and asceticism in favor of renewed commitment to life in the world.
- Many writers, and readers, of autobiographies indulge in solipsistic self-analysis or self-lacerating soliloquies.
- ...an introduction to the solipsism of teen life lived to the noxious soundtrack of pop yearning, broken only by phone calls and text messages from other adolescents.

Sui Generis: (see also UNIQUE) [sUee 'jen eris]

< L. of his, her, its or their own kind; individual, unique.

Def. of his, her, its or their own kind; individual, unique, unduplicated.

- The God of the Hebrews was the first one that was pure being, not in nature, ineffable, sui generis.
- His election victory does not represent a victory of ideology; his appeal was sui generis—he is one of a kind.
- It is tempting to think of this newest crisis in [nation] as a “new problem,” sui generis in this post-Cold War world, that its contours and substance are intrinsically quite different from all the other examples of the 90s such as Bosnia, Kosovo and Rwanda. But that would be untrue, as they have many collective and individual factors in common. Geyer, 1999.

2. REALITY-ACTUALITY (cf. Theory; Fantasy; Truth)

entelechy (cf. Philosophy)

extant

holism (see SCOPE)

ideopraxist

inure (become real) (see STRENGTH)

ipso facto

polysemy-polysemous

praxis

pregnant (see IMAGINATION-FANCY-WHIM)

purport (see AFFIRM-PROFESS)

tenor

vel non (cf. Evidence)

Entelechy: (cf. Philosophy) [en 'tel Əkee]

< Gk. en- = in, into + Telei, dat. of Telos = goal, end, completion + Echein = to have, hold + -eia or English -y = forming noun from action verb > Entelecheia = actuality.

Def. 1. in Aristotelian philosophy, the actualization of potentiality or of true existence; a realization or actuality as opposed to potentiality. 2. (in vitalist philosophy) a vital agent or force directing growth and life; the immanent force which controls and directs life and its development.

- Hegel's "World Spirit," comparable to the Aristotelian entelechy, actualizes the progress of nature in its evolutionary unfolding.

- It was Kepler who first divorced the concept of "energy" from its connection with the Aristotelian entelechy, and identified it with force.

Extant: ['ex tƏnt]

< Stare = stand + Ex- = out > Extare = to stand out or forth > prp. Extans or Exstans.

Def. 1. still existing; not extinct; not lost or destroyed; 2. [archaic] standing out; conspicuous.

- Our own orthodoxy has preached to us that the most important right extant is the right to vote your own opinion.

Ideopraxist: [ideəh 'prax ist]

< Gk. Ideo = idea + Praxis = deed, act, action.

Def. one who puts ideas into practice.

- He was among the completest [sic] Ideologists, at least Ideopraxists: in the Idea he lived, moved and thought. Thomas Carlyle: Sartor Resartus.

Ipsa Facto: ['ip soh 'fak toh]

< L. by the fact (or act) itself.

Def. by that very fact.

- For the generation that fought World War II and the Cold War, the prime American values were individual opportunity, integration and free speech. Ipsa facto a virtuous and desirable goal is to open the American experience to all comers.

Polysemy-Polysemous: [paw 'lis Əmee] [pawlƏ 'see mus or paw 'lis Əmus]

< Gk. Polys = much, many + Sema: a sign + -os: adjective > LL. Polysemus: having many meanings.

Def. the fact of having or being open to several or many meanings; diversity of meanings.

- Words like *foot* and *head* show polysemy to a high degree.
- Polysemy is the essence of many politicians' rhetoric until they learn the hard way that most of the people cannot be fooled all of the time.

Praxis: [ˈprax is]

< Gk. Prassein = to do > Praxis = deed, act, action.

Def. 1. practice, as distinguished from theory, of an art, science, etc.; application or use, as of knowledge or skills. 2. established practice; convention, habit, or custom. 3. a set of examples or exercises for practice, as in grammar.

- Lenin's writings ("As long as capitalism and socialism exist, we cannot live in peace") are no longer an essential part of Soviet praxis. 1988.
- In the future Marxism will be treated much as the teachings of Freud: to be studied as entities of historical theory rather than to be taken seriously as praxis.
- During times of peace economic theories and realities can be hammered out through practice. War tends to freeze or skew the trial-and-error lessons of praxis.
- Theoretically, diversity translates into a student body of different ethnic groups and races and a corollary diversity of opinion. However, theory and praxis are not congruent.

Tenor: [ˈten ɒr]

< L. Tenere = to hold > Tenor-Tenoris = a holding > OFr. Tenir-Tenant = to hold.

Def. 1. the upper male voice register, which held the melody: the *canto firmo*. 2. the general course, tendency or movement. 3. the course of thought or meaning that runs through something written or spoken; general meaning; drift; purport. 4. (Rhet.) the subject of a metaphor, such as "life" in "Life is a river."

- Along the cool sequester'd vale of life; They kept the noiseless tenor of their way. Thomas Gray: *Elegy Written in a Country Church-Yard*.
- His poem on the coronation has a more even tenour of thought. Samuel Johnson: *Life of Dryden*.
- [Concerning exceptions and constraints upon legislative authority, as a prohibition against the passing of *ex post facto* laws such as retroactive taxes.] Limitations of this kind can be preserved no other way than through the medium of the courts of justice, whose duty it must be to declare void all acts contrary to the manifest tenor of the Constitution. Alexander Hamilton: *Federalist papers*.
- As passionately as we knew he felt on this subject, the tenor of his speech was not antagonistic.
- By the tenor of his letters to the press one could discern that they were not written by a censorious temperament.

Vel Non: (cf. Evidence) [vel 'nahn, or, in Latin: wel nahn]

< L. = or not.

Def. 1. a term used by courts in reference to the existence or nonexistence of an issue for determination, e.g. "We come to the merits vel non of this appeal;" 2. the existence or nonexistence of a material fact.

- [Pertaining to sexual harassment at the work place]: Incertitude is engendered by the court's "reasonable person" rather than "reasonable woman" standard. Does that mean that the legality vel non of sexually harassing conduct turns on proof that both ordinary men and women would find an abusive work-place environment, or does it assume that the sexual harassment views of the two sexes are fungible?

- But that's an inconsequential factor in a nation's adherence vel non to democracy. B. Fine.

3. REVELATION-DEMONSTRATION (cf. Set Forth; Make Known-Reveal; Explain-Describe-Interpret; Transparent)

apocalypse (see FINALITY)

epiphany (cf. Perceptive)

evince (see KNOWN)

expound (see CLARIFY; FORMAL LANGUAGE-PRONOUNCE)

open sesame (see SUCCESS)

oracle (see PRONOUNCEMENT and AUTHORITY; cf. Prophecy)

remonstrate (see DISAPPROVE-PROTEST)

theophany (cf. Divinity)

unkennel

Epiphany: [ɒ 'pi fanee or e 'pi fanee]

< Gk. Epi- = on, upon + -phan = appear, show + -eia = suffix forming noun from verb > Epiphanein = to show forth, manifest > Epiphaneia = apparition.

Def. 1 The Feast of Epiphany is called Twelfth Night. As a Christian festival observed on January 6, it celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles in the persons of the Magi, who brought him gifts twelve days after his birth. 2. An appearance or manifestation, esp. of a god, a deity, or other supernatural being. 3. a sudden, intuitive perception of or insight into the reality or essential meaning of something, usually initiated by a commonplace occurrence or experience {i.e. the sudden appearance-manifestation of an insight or perception}.

- He tells his story in a series of flashbacks, crucial scenes of epiphany and self-discovery.

- Bob Dylan's unexpected appearance at the Concert for Bangladesh was one of the most powerful epiphanies in the history of rock [Def. 2].

- It is only toward the end of the novel that the artist's death allows his wife the release she needs to reveal herself in a moving speech. The author wrests such epiphanies from meager raw materials.
- On [tour] we expected a cram course in history, but we were astonished at the beauty we discovered. Travel can have wonderful epiphanies.
- In the life of a reader there are occasional and utterly unexpected epiphanies: moments when one encounters a writer for the first time and discovers the dawning of a whole new world.
- His findings may lead others in his field to consider their objectivity. But don't count on this epiphany.
- How do or can we comprehend God: by reason, or only through an ecstatic epiphany of faith?
- That "We have to die of something" is an epiphany he didn't receive until well into his thirties, when he suddenly decided to sell his motorcycle.
- The governor's political positions aren't stands, because they move with the seasons. That's good for fun especially when a reporter reminds him that his epiphany of the moment deviates from his previous.

Theophany [thee 'aw fanee]

< Gk. Theo- = god + -phany: manifestation, appearance > Theophaneia.

Def. a manifestation or visible appearance of God or a god to man.

- Graphic tortures, profane theophanies and demonic masques are the order in this film.
- He was an instrument for a theophanic anger.

Unkennel: [uhn 'ken el]

< L. Canis = a dog > VL. Canile > OFr. Chenil > ME. Kenel.

Def. 1. to drive or release from, or as from, a kennel or hole. 2. to bring to light; uncover; disclose.

- Hamlet asks Horatio to observe Claudius during a scene (in the play being staged for the King) which should remind Claudius of his murder of the elder Hamlet. Hamlet says to Horatio: If his occulted guilt do not itself unkennel in one speech, it is a damned ghost [and not my father] we have seen. III-ii-85.

4. FANTASY-APPARITION (cf. Imagination-Fancy-Whim; Enrapture)

chimera-chimerical (cf. Fancy; Demon; Supernatural)

eidolon (cf. Supernatural)

phantasm (see ILLUSION)

reverie (see IMAGINATION)

shade (cf. Mythology)

specter-spectral (see SUPERNATURAL)

Chimera:-Chimerical: (cf. Supernatural) [ki 'mir Ə or kI 'mir Ə]

< Gk. Chimaira, fem. of Chimaros: goat.

Def. Chimera: 1. (often cap.) a mythological fire-breathing monster, commonly represented with a lion's head, a goat's body, and a serpent's tail. 2. any similarly grotesque monster having disparate parts, esp. as depicted in decorative arts 3. a horrible or unreal creature of the imagination; a vain or idle fancy.

Def. Chimerical: 1. unreal; imaginary; visionary. 2. wildly fanciful; highly unrealistic.

- All the animals of Satan's bestiary: sirens, hippocentaurs, gorgons, harpies, incubi, dragopods, minotaurs, lynxes, pards, chimeras, cynophales who darted fire from their nostrils, hydrophora.." Eco: Name of the Rose.

- This latest little phobia of yours is an impossible, foolish fancy—a chimera.

- He was chimerical, as unpredictable as a tornado. [def. 2].

- This-worldly notions of political and social paradise are chimerical and usually become totalitarian.

- Although it changed its name from the European Community to the European Union, the ideal of a United States of Europe looks ever more chimerical.

- She pleaded with him to abjure his well-intentioned but chimerical conceits.

- They are holding on to the chimera of a constitutional amendment to outlaw...

- In this one (this latest of the author's novels) the characters have been struck mute. They communicate through the pictures and symbols on a pack of tarot cards. That seems the borrowed inspiration of a novice writer who has been rifling Borges or Nabakov. Yet this notion comes from Italian fabulist Italo Calvino, who has been producing such chimerical conceptions since the 1940s.

- [He] own'd he had a stubborn spirit. That made him trust alone in merit—would rise by merit to promotion: Alas! a mere chymerick notion. Swift: The Beast's Confession.

- In the fairyland of fancy, genius may run wild. There it has a creative power, and may reign arbitrarily over its own empires of chimeras. Edward Young: Conjectures on Original Composition.

- Persons after a debauch of liquor, or under the influence of terror, or in the deleria of a fever or in a fit of lunacy, or walking in their sleep have had their brains deeply impressed with chimerical representations. William Shentstone.

- Hopes for establishing democracy in a third-world backwater like that one are not necessarily chimerical, but they'll have to be fortified with military persuasion.

- They argue that [in such a political context] free speech is a chimera.

- The American Museum of Natural History opened an exhibit entitled “Mythic Creatures: Dragons, Unicorns and Mermaids.” In an era when scientists create real human-animal chimeras for experimentation, perhaps there is something reassuring about exhibiting the quaint beliefs of previous eras.
- [Pertaining to Sabine Baring Gould, author of “Onward Christian Soldiers] all his life he was magnetically drawn to all things old and lost and mysterious, to Nordic sagas and prehistoric stones, to dark folktales and trackless wilderness, to chimeras that reason is powerless to explain. Smithsonian, July 1993.
- Political speech without expenditures is as chimerical as a flower garden without water.

Eidolon: (cf. Supernatural) [‘I doh ləʊn or I ‘doh luhn]

< Gk. Eidos: shape; Eidolon: image, idol.

Def. a phantom; apparition; image, esp. an image without real existence; a specter.

- Mephistopheles: "It is a shape, a lifeless eidolon.”
- Banquo's eidolon rendered Macbeth a rather inadequate host at the banquet.

Fata Morgana: [‘fah tə mor ‘gahnə]

< It. (lit.) Morgan or Morgana le Fay, a powerful sorceress, fay, or magician in the Arthurian legend.

Def. a mirage, especially one sometimes seen off the coast of Sicily near the strait of Messina: so called because formerly supposed to be the work of Morgana le Fay.

- ...an eclipse of the moon, or a thunderstorm, or a prairie fire, a sunrise, an sunset, a splendid rainbow, an earthquake, a fata morgana, the eruption of a volcano, or some other of nature's spectacles... Hugo Wolf

Shade: (cf. Mythology) [shayd]

< IE. base Scot- = darkness, shadow > OE. Scaedu.

Def. a ghost; specter; anything lacking substance or reality; phantom.

- The Olympian pantheon—Zeus, Hera and their offspring, Apollo, Pallas Athene, etc., resided on the summit of Mount Olympus. They were joined by a rich gallery of local deities, satyrs, shades, nymphs, furies, sibyls, and muses, to whom the Greeks paid their oblations. Davies: Europe 108.
- Only he who has raised the lyre even among the shades can dispense the infinite praise. (Nur wer die Leier schon hob auch unter Schatten, darf das unendliche Lob ahnend erstatten) Rilke: Die Sonette an Orpheus.

5. DELUSION

ignis fatuus or wil-o'-the-wisp (cf. Deceit)

micawber

Ignis Fatuus or Will-o'-the-Wisp: ['ig nis 'fat yu us]

< L. Ignis Fatuus = foolish fire; William with the wisp (a small bundle or bunch, as of hay or straw)

Def. 1. a flitting phosphorescent light seen at night, chiefly over swamps or marshy ground, and supposed to be due to spontaneous combustion of gas from decomposed organic matter; also called Friar's Lantern and Will-o'-the-wisp. 2. a deceptive hope, goal or influence; a delusion; something deluding or misleading. 3. specifically Will-o'-the-wisp: a delusive hope, goal, or influence: anything that deludes or misleads by luring on.

-The defeats of Barry Goldwater and George McGovern were supposed to have ridded the GOP of its right wing, the Democrats of their left. This notion has proved to be a classic ignis fatuus of American politics.

- At one dim point, far in among the marshes and the ridges, a light sprang up. "That is an ignis fatuus," was my first thought. Brontë: Jane Eyre III-II-330.

- Of Nature's Laws his Carrols first begun, Why the grave Owl can never face the sun; How Will-a-Wisp mis-leads Night-faring Clowns, O'er Hills, and sinking Bogs, and pathless Downs. John Gay: The Shepherd's Week: Saturday.

Micawber: [mik 'aw b'r]

< character in Dickens' David Copperfield.

Def. a persistently optimistic but improvident, chronically unlucky person.

- Because of Mr. Begin's stance, the Palestinians had no reason to attend the 1977 peace conference. But some in Washington persisted in their resolve to persuade the Arabs to reconsider, in the Micawberish hope that some miracle would happen.

- [Wealthy citizen] enjoyed supporting artists who sought Micawberish advances before producing what the public shunned.

- The Miranda decision decreed that a detained suspect must be warned of his right to silence, and that an attorney would be provided free if his estate is more Micawberish than Jordanesque.

6. WISDOM-ENLIGHTENMENT (cf. Perceptive)

illuminati

Nestor (cf. Civil Virtue)

oracle (see AUTHORITY; cf. Prophecy; Revelation)

sapience-sapient

satori (cf. Spiritual)

sensible (see PERCEPTIVE)

solomonic (cf. Civil Virtue)

palladian

pelican

Illuminati: [ilUmin 'ah tee]

< L. Lumen = light > Luminare = to light + In = in > Inluminare or Illuminare-Illuminatus = to light up, illuminate > Illuminatus = enlightened.

Def. people who have or profess to have special intellectual or spiritual enlightenment.

- These days it's always possible to find illuminati of one kind or another who will testify in court that garbage is art. 1990.

- It has become très chic to mock (traditional icon), which is fair game for today's illuminati. And when the mocked protest they stand accused of lacking humor.

- The illuminati of Hollywood paid \$100,000 per couple for the thrill of dining with [politician].

Nestor: (cf. Civil Virtue) ['nes tohr or 'nes tƏr]

< Gk. mythology, spec. The Iliad.

Def. 1. the wise elder and counselor who helped lead the Greeks through the Trojan war. 2. any wise old man.

- The former senator is now the Nestor of the party, at least in his home state.

- The dean was so well liked, that after his official retirement they prevailed upon him to stay on as Nestor-emeritus for the grad students.

Sapient: (n. Sapience) ['sap eeint]

< L. Sapi- = taste, think > Sapere-Sapiens = to taste, know; be wise.

Def. full of knowledge; wise or sagacious; discerning (as "sage"); often ironic.

- Fidelio interposes Leonora No. 3 between the first and second scenes of Act II. We owe this favor to the dramatic sapience of Gustav Mahler.

- While she was unveiling her sapience to the House Committee, her Department of [] was continuing to crumble.

- In light of more than three decades of neon-light warnings of the dangers of cigarettes, to discover a smoker ignorant of the risks would be akin to finding a juror who knew nothing of the Watergate scandal. It

speaks volumes that the government's complaint neglects to identify even one smoker who fell into that singular non-sapient universe. Fein.

Satori: (cf. Spiritual) [sat 'ohree]

< Japanese.

Def. (Zen Buddhism) spiritual enlightenment or illumination, especially of sudden onset.

- His insight was accepted as satori brilliance and remain so to some after we learned that it followed quickly upon a dose or two of something swallowed or sniffed.

Solomonic: (cf. Civil Virtue)

< Of or pertaining to the Hebrew King Solomon.

Def. Solomonic: wise or reasonable in character.

Def. Solomon: a sage.

- Because regions that do not meet clean-air requirements cannot legally attract more industry, the EPA announced a Solomonic compromise.

- If you think the tedium of the Sunday TV talk-shows is staged, sit down with a collection of Washington pundits, relaxing over their glasses of spring water and holding forth on the budget or the Washington Bullets. On all topics, they are Solomonic and gruesome. Moreover, they are usually wrong. R.E. Tyrrell.

Palladian:

< Gk. Palladios and L. Palladius: of Pallas.

Def. 1. of or pertaining to the Pallas Athena, goddess of wisdom, skills, and warfare. 2. pertaining to wisdom, knowledge, or learning; studied; wise; learned.

- The old college dorm was a tranquil edifice, one of Palladian harmony.

- By the time the reader finishes the final novel in this series, the characters have convincingly aged before your eyes, and they, or at least the author, seem to have reached palladian maturity.

Pelican:

Def. the pelican is long-lived and therefore wise.

-Surely now my ignorance of machinery had caught up with me. My foolish decisions had cost this new airline reputation and considerable money. On the way to the airplane I told Sloniger that perhaps it would be much easier for him if he gave me a permanent leave of absence. "Wait," said the wisest of pelicans. Fate is the Hunter 344.

7. TRUTH-CONFIRMATION-CONCLUSION (cf. Certainty; Validity; Conclusion; Evidence)

apodictic (see CERTAINTY)

copestone (see also TERMINATE; cf. High Point)

epiphany (see REVELATION)

corroborate

ecce signum

homologate (cf. Affirm)

lapidary (see PUNCTILIOUS-EXACT)

probative-probatory (see EVIDENCE-CONCLUSION)

troth (see also TRUST)

veracity-veracious (cf. Validity)

verisimilitude (see VALIDITY)

verity

Copestone: (see also TERMINATE; cf. High Point): [ˈkɒp stəʊn]

< Coping = the top layer of a masonry wall, usually sloped to carry off water; Cope = to cut so as to fit over against a coping or molding with curves, angles, etc.

Def. 1. the top stone of a wall, building, or other structure; 2. a stone used in or for coping; 3. the crown or completion; finishing stroke; finishing touch; culmination.

- On opening the little door, two hairy monsters [dogs] flew at my throat, while a mingled guffaw from Heathcliff and Hareton put the copestone on my rage and humiliation. Brontë: Wuthering Heights I-II-13.

Corroborate: [kɒr ˈrɒb əreɪt]

< L. Robur = oak, strength > Robare = to make strong + Cum = intens. > Corroborare = to strengthen, Corroboratus: strengthened.

Def. 1. (originally) to strengthen. 2. to make more certain the validity of; bolster; support; confirm.

- ...but now his outrageous account seems to be corroborated by the evidence.

- The producer knew he wasn't putting out a film to please everyone, as subsequent reviews corroborated.

- Mr. Pott: "This [electoral] contest excites great interest in the metropolis [London], Sir?" "I believe it does," said Mr. Pickwick. "To which I have reason to know my article of last Saturday in some degree contributed," said Pott, looking towards Mr. Perker for corroboration. Dickens: Pickwick Papers 147-Oxford.

Ecce Signum: [ˈɛk ə ˈsɪɡ nʌm]

< L. behold the proof!

- I have scaped by miracle; I am eight times thrust through the doublet, four times through the hose: ecce signum. Falstaff in King Henry IV, Part 1: II-iv- 187.

Homologate: [hu ˈmaw lə ɡaɪt]

< Gk. Homos = same + Legein = say > Homolegein = to agree, assent > ML. Homologatus.

Def. 1. to approve or countenance; 2. Civil Law. to confirm officially , as by a court of justice.

- ...the oaths of government exacted from the established clergymen, in which they acknowledge an Erastian king and parliament, and homologate the incorporating Union between England and Scotland. Scott: The Heart of Mid-Lothian 42-435.

Troth: (see also TRUST-FAITH) [trawθ]

< OE. Treowth > ME. Trouthe or Trowthe

Def. 1. faithfulness; fidelity; loyalty: “By my troth.” 2. truth, verity: esp. in the phrase “in troth” = truly, indeed. 3. one’s pledged word, as in engagement to marry; promise.

-In troth, Uncle Cedric, you are neither wise nor reasonable tonight. Scott: Ivanhoe.

Veracity-Veracious: [ver ˈas ɪteɪ or vˈr ˈas ɪteɪ; ver ˈaɪ ʃʊs or vˈr ˈaɪ ʃʊs]

< L. Verus = true > Verax = speaking truly > ML. Veracitas = truthfulness.

Def. Veracity: 1. habitual truthfulness; honesty; 2. accuracy of statement; accordance with truth; 3. accuracy or precision, as of perception; 4. that which is true; truth.

Def. Veracious: habitually truthful; honest; 2. true; accurate.

- Great, rambling old places these [London] inns are, with galleries, and passages, and stair-cases, wide enough and antiquated enough, to furnish materials for a hundred ghost stories, supposing that the world should exist long enough to exhaust the innumerable veracious legends connected with old London Bridge and its adjacent neighborhood on the Surrey side. Dickens: Pickwick Papers 107 Oxford.

- [Mr. Winkle, assessing the assets of Bob Sawyer, a novice surgeon:] The stock [surgeon’s supplies] itself...[The surgeon interrupts:] “Dummies, my dear boy,” said Bob Sawyer; “half the drawers have got nothing in ‘em, and the other half don’t open,” he said while demonstrating the veracity of the assertion by divers hard pulls on the little gilt knobs on the counterfeit drawers. Dickens: Pickwick Papers 479.

- [Sam, doing some spy work for Pickwick and Winkle in Bristol, accidently runs into the lovely Mary, who was the servant girl of the magistrate Nupkins in London] Mary: “Why, how did you come here?” Sam: “O’

course I came to look arter [sic] you, my darlin’,” replied Sam; for once permitting his passion to get the better of his veracity. Dickens: The Pickwick Papers 492-Oxford.

Verity: [ˈver itee]

< L. Versus = true > Veritas = truth > OFr. Verite.

Def. 1. conformity to truth or fact; truth; reality; 2. a principle, belief, etc. taken to be fundamentally and permanently true; a truth; a reality.

- “The things that matter most” are the old verities, which [author] calls “things of the spirit, such as honor, selflessness, humility, service to others, self-control, and fidelity.”

8. POINT-COUNTERPOINT-LEAD-RESPONSE-RECIPROCATION (cf. Argue-Disagree)

antiphon (see MUSIC)

antistrophe

antithesis (cf. Counterpart)

bandy (see also DESIGN)

carom (see also MOTION-MOVE SUDDENLY)

converse (see PROCESS-REVERSE)

demarche (see ARRANGEMENT-PLAN)

dialectics (see LOGIC)

litany (see MONOTONY)

recidivism (see FAIL)

redound (see CAUSE-EFFECT)

rejoinder (cf. Exchange)

repartee

riposte (cf. Decisive; Conversation-Exchange)

reprise (see REPETITION)

tu quoque (see EQUIVALENCY)

Antistrophe: [an ˈtis troh fee]

< Gk. Anti- = against, opposite + Strephein = to turn > Antistrephein = to turn about > Antistrophe = a turning point.

Def. 1. the return movement, left to right, made by the chorus of an ancient Greek play in answering the previous strophe [the movement of the chorus in turning from right to left on the stage; the part of the choric

song performed during this]. 2. that part of an ancient Greek choric ode or song performed while making this movement, i.e. in answer to the previous strophe [cf. antiphon]. 3. in a Pindaric ode, the stanza, usually in the same or similar form, which follows the strophe [the stanza that is answered by the antistrophe, in the same metrical pattern]. 4. in poems with contrasting or parallel stanza systems, the second system.

- Because there is, as antistrophe to Adelno's remorse, a remorse of Berengar's. Eco: Name of the Rose.

Antithesis: (cf. Counterpart) (an'ti thə sis)

< Gk. Anti = against + Tithenai = to place > Antithenai.

Def. 1. a contrast or opposition of thoughts, usually in two phrases, clauses or sentences, e.g. you are going; I am staying; 2. the second part of such an expression; 3. a contrast or opposition (cf. dialectic); 4. the exact opposite, e.g. joy is the antithesis of sorrow

- [example:] Augustus was accustomed to boast that he had found his capital of brick, and that he had left it of marble." Edward Gibbon.

Bandy: (cf. Design) ['ban dee]

< Fr. Bander-Bande = to tie, bend (as a bow).

Def. 1. an old game, much like field hockey or shinny. 2. a club bent at one end, used to strike the ball in this game; a hockey or shinny stick. 3. adj. bent or curved outward; bowed. vt. 4. to throw or strike to and fro or from side to side. 5. to pass from one to another; toss or hit back and forth, as a ball; give and take, esp. to exchange words in an angry or argumentative manner. 6. to pass (gossip, rumor, etc) about freely and carelessly; 7. Bandy-legged: having bandy legs; bowlegged.

- [Juliet:] The clock struck nine when I did send the nurse; She would be as swift in motion as a ball; My words would bandy her to my sweet love, and his to me. [5] Romeo and Juliet II-v-1, 14.

- Tybalt, Mercutio, the Prince expressly hath forbidden bandying [sword-fighting, dueling] in Verona streets. [4] Romeo and Juliet III-i-92.

- Do you bandy looks with me, you rascal? (striking him) [5] King Lear I-iv-92.

- I found... the hawk feathers shabby, one wing bandy-banged. [3] R. P. Warren: Red Tail Hawk.

Carom: ['kar um]

< Sp. Carambola: special use of fruit name > Back formation from Carambole, taken as "carom ball."

Def. 1. (Billiards) a shot in which the cue ball successively hits the two object balls. 2. a hitting and resounding, as of a ball struck against a surface and glancing off. vi. 3. to make a carom. 4. to hit and rebound.

- The explosions from below caromed up the valley.

- All three attended U. Cal. Berkeley in the early 1960s, then caromed through the rest of the manic decade trying to understand themselves and the cultural eruptions around.

Rejoin-Rejoinder: [re 'joyn d'r]

< MFr. Joindre = to join > Rejoindre = to join again > ME Rejoinen.

Def. Rejoin: vi. 1. to say in answer; to answer; reply, esp. to counter-reply. 2. (Law) to answer the plaintiff's replication.

Def. Rejoinder: 1. an answer to a reply; response. 2. a reply; answer. 3. (Law) the defendant's answer to the plaintiff's replication.

-He ignored the insinuation, not bothering to make a rejoinder.

-She always allowed her interlocutors to finish their statements before rejoining with hers.

- "I don't believe it," said Oliver, who had watched her closely. "Have it your own way," rejoined the girl, affecting to laugh. Dickens: *Oliver Twist* 159-Oxford.

-Being his turn to tweak me, the accumulated chores on my desk were his opening: "A messy desk reflects a messy mind." I rejoined with "An empty desk reflects an empty mind."

-He disposes of the *Times's* attack with a rejoinder published in the *Gazette*.

- "Vere are they?" said Sam, reciprocating all the old gentleman's grins. "In the snugery," rejoined Mr. Weller. "Catch the red-nosed man a goin' any vere but vere the liquors is; not he, Samivel—not he." Dickens: *Pickwick Papers* 566-Oxford.

Repartee: ['re par 'tee]

< L. Partire-Partitus and Partiri = to share out, distribute, divide, separate > OFr. Partir > vt. to part; + Re = back > Repartir-Repartie = to return quickly a thrust or a blow, reply > fem. pp. Repartie.

Def. 1. a quick, witty reply; 2. a series of such rejoinders; 3. skill at making witty replies.

- There would be so much satire and sarcasm,--scoffing and flouting, with railing and reparteeing of it, -- thrusting a parrying in one corner or another,---there would be nothing but mischief amongst us. Sterne: *Tristram Shandy* III-XX-142.

- Mary Crawford to Edmund Bertram: You need not hurry [your point in our debate] when the object is only to prevent my saying a bon-mot [a witticism], for there is not the least wit in my nature. I am a very matter of fact, plain spoken being, and may blunder on the borders of a repartee for half an hour together without striking it out. Austen: *Mansfield Park* I-IX-74.

Riposte: (cf. Decisive; Conversation-Exchange) [ri 'pohst]

< L. Re = again, back + Spondere = to pledge, promise > Respondere = to match, answer to, reply > It. Rispondere = to respond > Riposta = response.

Def. 1. (in fencing) a sharp, swift thrust made after parrying an opponent's lunge, hence 2. a sharp, swift return or retort in speech or action; counterstroke. 3. vi. to make a riposte; to reply or retaliate.

-When a CBS correspondent led with "Mr. President, what do you have in mind in response to this latest attack by X-wing death squads?" the president riposted with "To try our best to prevent a take-over by the Y-wing death squads."

- "Modern" was most sharply defined, stylistically at least, by the Bauhaus architects in the 1920s who declared "less is more." To which postmodern architects of the '60s riposted with "less is a bore!"

-Sharp ripostes between our UN ambassador and UN officials in (Africa) have set off a major diplomatic row.

-By the mid '70s, Neil Simon's zingy one-line gag ripostes had made him the leading U.S. comic playwright since the '50s.

- [Cowboys coach Tom] Landry riposted the Redskin defenders by sending out four wide receivers.

- Nation X attacked nation Y. Y's riposte was tactically precise and strategically effective.

-His witty ripostes are fashioned from barbed wire.

-During the debates, presidential candidate X said he would decide the economic path for the country, which elicited from his opponent his most spirited riposte of the season: "That's what worries me."

9. DISPUTE-OPPOSE BY ARGUMENT-DEBATE-CONTRADICT (cf. Deny; Oppose By Action-Conflict; Disapproval-Accusation; Test-Try-Challenge)

antinomy (cf. Logic; Conflict)

canvass (cf. Examine-Analyze; Criticize)

contravene

deconstruction-deconstructionism (see CONTRADICTION)

gainsay (cf. Deny)

impeach (see DISAPPROVAL-ACCUSE-BLAME)

impugn (cf. Attack; Conflict; Criticize)

oppugn (cf. Criticize)

polemics-polemic

quodlibet (see also COLLECTION-MIXTURE-BLEND)

recalcitrate (cf. Insubordination)

recuse

Antinomy (cf. Logic; Conflict) [an 'tin oh mee]

< Gk. Nomos = law + Anti = against > Antinomia = a contradiction between laws.

Def. 1. opposition of one law, regulation, principle, rule, etc. to another. 2 a contradiction, inconsistency between two apparently reasonable principles, statements or laws.

-The antinomy between human happiness and progress...

-Yeats's poem "Crazy Jane Talks with the Bishop" deals with the resolution of opposites, of what he called "all those antinomies of day and night."

-The fabric of western culture was created out of the interweaving and synthesizing of polarized attitudes to human life. The resolution of antinomies has been essential to the western way.

-The worst that can be done to people is to give them a world without boundaries. Understanding and compassion on the one hand, and clear moral teaching on the other, are not antinomies.

- The debate continues as to whether he succeeded in his quest for a system capable of contriving a stable synthesis out of the antinomies of his thought.

-For over a century a favorite subject of concern among psychologists and psychiatrists is the ambiguity and tenuousness of polarities that had earlier been taken for granted, such as: humans are sexual, but pre-pubescent children are not, an antinomy based on the Victorian assumption that adults are sexual but children are innocent.

-One sociologist has proposed that Generation X (born between 1964 and 1975?) are libertarian children of flower-power socialists. More likely is that a progression of white generations since WW-II have become more fiscally conservative and socially liberal, each generation more libertarian than the previous. If so, what we're seeing isn't an antinomian Generation X.

- Stephen Maturin: The greater mass of confusion (arises from the conflict between) these less evident divergencies—the moral law, the civil, military, common laws, the code of honour, custom, the rules of practical life, of civility, of amorous conversation, gallantry, to say nothing of Christianity for those that practice it. All generally at variance; none ever an entirely harmonious relation to the rest. Capt. Aubrey: You are an antinomian. O'Brian: Master and Commander 319-1/3.

-Those "healthy" protein bars and shakes are healthy only when compared with something already loaded with calories. Consuming these neo-pseudo foods alone in our cars, we have become a nation of antinomian eaters.

Canvass: (cf. Examine-Analyze; Criticize) ['can vƏs]

< possibly from canvas being used for sifting.

Def. vt. 1. to examine or discuss in detail; look over carefully; investigate by inquiry; discuss; debate. 2. to criticize severely. 3. to go among people asking for votes, opinions, orders, etc. 4. n. close inspection; scrutiny.

- [Fanny's young sisters Susan and Betsy quarrel over who is the rightful possessor of a souvenir knife. It occurs to Fanny that a new knife for the five year old] might, perhaps, restore peace for ever on the sore subject of the silver knife, canvassed as it now was continually. Austen: Mansfield Park III-IX-311.

- Since I have a respect for the cloth, all I said was, that I did not relish having my orders canvassed in the wardroom or anywhere else, that it was not customary in the service to dispute a captain's decisions nor to carry dirty rumours to the cabin. O'Brian: Desolation Island 180.

- [Pertaining to Louisa Musgrove's concussion, suffered from frolicking on ocean-break rocks at Lyme]: As to the sad catastrophe, it could be canvassed by Lady Russell and Mrs. Musgrove in only one style. It was decided it had been the consequence of much thoughtlessness and much imprudence. Austen, Persuasion II-I-103].

Contravene: ['cahn trə 'veen]

< L. Contra = against + Venire = to come.

Def. 1. a) to go against, go or act counter to, oppose; come into conflict with. b) to disagree with in argument, contradict, dispute. 2. to violate, infringe or transgress.

-Some politicians list themselves under a Christian denomination, or even attend church if a camera is waiting, while in practice contravening its ethical code.

-Members of the House of Representatives love to co-sponsor bills they know their constituents support, and then contravene the spirit and letter of the bill by secretly refusing to sign the discharge petition required to release it from committee to the floor.

-Such action may be in contravention of this law, but this law is in contravention of the Constitution.

-The director of the U.S. Information Agency has ruled that Voice of America correspondents "must conform to U.S. government policies" and that he does not see this as "in any way contravening VOA's charter." 1976.

-In contravention of [dictator's] promise of press freedom for [his country], seven leading editors were arrested in a pre-dawn raid.

Gainsay: (cf. Deny) ['gayn 'say]

< AS. Gegn = against; Seggen = to say ME. Gainsaien = again, say.

Def. 1. to deny. 2. to contradict. 3. to speak or act against; oppose. 4. forbid. 5. n. the act or possibility of gainsaying; contradiction; denial.

-...the wonder and delight of a new and more intimate form of contact, of protest gainsaid, of scruples overcome. Dreiser: *An American Tragedy*.

-Our position, now that we have thoroughly researched this treaty, is that we can no longer gainsay the points raised by this group of “non-expert” citizens.

-And whoever gainsays King Edward's right, by this I challenge him to single fight (throws down his gauntlet) 3 Henry VI. IV-vii-73.

-Beyond gainsay this was the best performance of his career.

- Pick up the phone, write a letter, complain, urge, picket. No one could gainsay that this is free speech.

-There is no gainsaying the extraordinary lengths to which their militants will go.

-His strategy in the campaign cannot be gainsaid.

- Those facts discredit the argument that the cartels and triads are plausible candidates for challenging the security of the United States. That conclusion does not gainsay that international organized crime is an important problem justifying concern. B. Fine.

Impugn: (cf. Attack; Conflict; Criticize) [im 'pyUn]

< L. Pugna = a battle > Pugnare = to fight + In = on, against > Impugnare = to fight against, attack.

Def. to believe or accuse someone's motives or statements to be insincere; to assail or attack [motives, veracity, statements, etc.] by words, argument or criticism; call doctrines or opinions into question; oppose or challenge as false.

-Lohengrin replies that no false accusations will succeed to impugn his honor.

-Those thirsting for simple evidentiary truth are being castigated and impugned as narrow-minded, bigoted, mean-spirited, partisan “haters.”

-The admissions committee were impressed with his credentials, but some things about his behavior led them to impugn his motives.

-Pete Rose's gambling so impugned his honor that it cost him his front row seat in the Hall of Fame, at least in the official hall—and the moral hall.

-Tailhook Association spokesman Steve Millikin: Though only a handful of the 3000 servicemen registered for the convention were guilty of wrongdoing, the reputation of every Navy and Marine aviator has been impugned. 1992.

-This time [] has outdone himself: without evidence he has impugned the good name of an entire industry.

- [Captain Jack Aubrey prudently backed off a fight with a man-o-war more than twice his ship's size. Aubrey tells ship's surgeon Maturin about the lieutenant's unhappiness with the incident.] Maturin: "He would certainly never have meant to impugn your courage." "Would he not?" asked Jack. Master and Commander 269.

Oppugn: (cf. Criticize) [oh 'pyUn]

< L. Ob- = toward, opposite, opposed to, {up against} + Pugnus = fist >Pugnare = to fight > Oppugnare = to oppose, attack.

Def. 1. to oppose or assail with argument, criticize adversely. 2. call in question, dispute, controvert.

-No one could possibly oppugn his authority.

- I say nothing likewise of Scroderus (Andrea) who all the world knows, set himself to oppugn Prignitz with great violence, proving it in his own way, first logically, then by a set of stubborn facts. Sterne: Tristram Shandy III-XXXVIII-169.

Quodlibet: (see also COLLECTION-MIXTURE-BLEND) [kwohd 'lib et or 'kwohd lib et]

< L. Qui = who, neuter: Quod + Libet: 3rd pers. sing. pres. of Libere = to please > Libet = it pleases, it is agreeable > Quod Libet = what pleases, as you please > ML. Quodlibeta = a disputation {perhaps as in "speak as you please}.

Def. 1. a subtle or elaborate academic debate or exercise in argument, esp. on a scholastic or theological question. 2. a humorously incongruous musical medley consisting of two or more independent and harmonically complementary melodies, usually quotations of well-known tunes, played or sung together in a polyphonic arrangement.

-The abbey...was not corrupted by disputation, by the quodlibetical conceit that would subject every mystery and every greatness to the scrutiny of the sic et non (yes and no). Eco: Name of the Rose.

Polemics-Polemic: [poh 'lem ik]

< IE. Pel- to shake, cause to tremble > Gk. Polemos = war > Polemikos = of or for war; (NB: IE. Pel- > L. Palpitare = to tremble).

Def. Polemics (construed as sing..) 1. the art or practice of disputation or controversy; 2. the branch of theology dealing with the history or conduct of ecclesiastical disputation and controversy.

Def. Polemic: n. 1. an argument, such as against some opinion, doctrine, etc; a controversial discussion. 2. a person who argues or is inclined to engage in disputation or argument in opposition to another; controversialist; adj.: 3. of or pertaining to disputation, controversy, or dispute; controversial. 4. also, Polemical: argumentative; disputatious.

- [Newspaper editorial pertaining to a primary-election debate on an issue] Let's try to sort the substance from the merely polemical, because the policy stakes are large.
- The name-calling centered round the mysterious Mr. X, who regularly poisons the wells of polemical discourse.
- Before selecting someone so lacking in skills of advocacy for such a contentious position they should have run him through his polemical paces.
- Glenn Gould's letters and articles are astute apologies for interpretations that struck many of his peers and listeners as wildly arbitrary. These letters also document the polemic stance Gould adopted in regard to rhythm, intonation, and register.
- The tendency is to underrate the cumulative effect of highly polemical ideological positions expressed in a medium (television) assumed merely to be entertainment.
- The Lincoln penny, Roosevelt dime, and Washington quarter are so familiar we hardly notice them. But placed alongside Roman coinage [at the show "Ancient Rome and America" in Philadelphia] with visages of emperors and similar iconography of laurels and eagles, they remind us of the polemical uses of currency.
- In debate, Mr. X will be no match for the skills of Mr. Y as a polemicist.
- The judge's phosphorescence with Stalin analogies [in his ruling statement] make for good polemics but bad law.

Recalcitrate: (cf. Insubordination) [re 'cal si 'trayt]

> L. Calx = a heel > Calcitrare = to kick + Re = back > Recalcitrare = to kick back, pp. Recalcitratus.

Def. to refuse to obey; be stubborn in opposition.

-[Referring to the groin wound of Toby, the brother of Tristram's father—an issue of concern to the woman Toby is courting. Tristram's father considers this an expression of unbridled sexual passion.] I know it will be said, continued my father (availing himself of the Prolepsis) that in itself, and simply taken—like hunger, or thirst, or sleep—'tis an affair neither good or bad—or shameful or otherwise. Why then did the delicacy of Diogenes and Plato so recalcitrate against it? Sterne: *Tristram Shandy* IX-XXXIII-455. (Def. c)

Recuse: [ree 'kyUz]

< L. Causa = a cause, a reason, motive, {rationale}, inducement; interest > Causari = to give as a reason or pretext; to dispute, plead + Re = against > Recusare = to refuse, object to, protest against, reject; (Roman law) to take exception, plead in defense.

Def. 1. to challenge or reject (a judge, jury or court) as interested, biased, prejudiced or otherwise disqualified to act.

-They argued that the judge failed to recuse himself from the case despite his being intimately involved.

- Judge B's participation in the X case flouted Canon 3 of the ABA's Judicial Code. It enjoins recusal in any proceeding in which the judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned.

10. CERTAINTY (cf. Final-Determined; Truth; Validity; Conclusion)

a fortiori;

apodictically (cf. TRUTH)

dispositive (see Final-Determined)

ineluctable (cf. Final)

inexorable (see RELENTLESS-INEVITABLE)

irrefragable

peremptory (cf. Dictatorial)

probatum est (cf. TEST-TRY)

Q.E.D.

A Fortiori: [ah 'for tee 'ohr ee]

< L. even more certain; for a still stronger reason; all the more reason.

Def. said of a conclusion that follows with even greater logical necessity than another already accepted in the argument.

-Her opinion is that to encourage women to [] does something unwanted not only to them, but to all women, and, a fortiori, to all men.

- In a case such as this, the infamy attaching to the executioner arises from what he does: the language of all nations condemns the man and a fortiori his act. O'Brian: Mauritius Command-210.

Apodictic-Apodictical -Apodictically: ['a poh 'dik tik – 'a poh 'dik tikəl – 'a poh 'dik tiklee]

< Gk. Deiknynai: to show > Deiktik(os.) relating to proof > Deikt(os.) able to be proved + Apo- = away, different from > Apodeiknynai = to show by argument > Apodeiktikos: proving clearly or fully.

Def. 1. that can clearly be shown or proved; incontestable because demonstrated or demonstrable. 2. Logic (of a proposition.) necessarily true or logically certain.

-Their dean of columnists put it this way, as ever apodictally,...

-Those few of us who have not spoken apodictally on the subject are deterred by its seemingly infinite complexity.

-A student speaking apodictally is a student speaking arrogantly.

Ineluctable: (cf. Final) [inee 'lukt Əb'l]

< L. Luctari: to wrestle + Ex- = out > Eluctari: to struggle, surmount > Eluctabilis: that can be resisted by struggling, + In- = not > Ineluctabilis-e = from which one cannot struggle free.

Def. not to be avoided; incapable of being evaded; inescapable; certain (as: an ineluctable fact); inevitable.

-One of the recurrent themes of classic Greek literature was the question whether or not fate is ineluctable.

- They built a lap-sized pool for their teenage kids, so their home ineluctably became a playground for the neighborhood.

-Gericault's gaze was turned toward the ineluctable fatality of the human situation.

- The irreducible and ineluctable matters of fact.

-But if his logic were valid it would lead ineluctably to the following, which is inconveniently contradicted by history: ..."

-The origin of natural selection is ineluctably a mystery.

-She is lately driven by the desperate needs that claimed her with their ineluctable clarity.

-Thyestes laid an ineluctable curse upon the seed of Atreus.

-Against your will and mine, with ineluctable brass I am nailing you down to this rock away from men (Hephaistos to Prometheus).

-For Paolo and Francesca (in Dante's *Inferno*, Canto V, 100-108), the cult of courtly love follows "laws." Francesca pleads this excuse: we loved each other since we could not withstand love's power. She thus adduces the ineluctability of love.

- Avoiding the polemical, Adam Garfinkle has written a book that cannot fail to trigger reflection about an event [the Vietnam War] that is an ineluctable ingredient in the political and cultural present.

-Chinese gastronomy is among the world's most elegant and diverse. A banquet begins like an opera, with an enticing overture leading ineluctably on toward the arias.

-....the ineluctable destitution wrought by such economic policy.

Irrefragable: ['i rƏ 'frag Əb'l]

< L. Frago: a din, crashing noise; loud applause + Sub: under > Suffragium: a decision, vote, suffrage {applause from under, voice of the masses} > Suffragari: to vote for, support, favor; + Re- = against > Refragari: to oppose + In- = not > Irrefragabilis: unopposable [lit. the support of which cannot be opposed-cla].

Def. that cannot be refuted; indisputable; undeniable.

-Hume and Voltair could on their own ground speak irrefragably for themselves against any church. Thomas Carlyle: *Portraits of Contemporaries*.

-The Foreign Relations Committee heard numerous irrefragable points from the State Department specialist.

Peremptory: (see also DICTATORIAL) [p'r 'emp tƏree or per 'emp ɔry]

< L. Emere: to buy, take + Per-: intens {or “through” or “completely”} > Perimere-Peremptus: to take away fully {take away from existence}, do away with, destroy, ruin slay > Peremptorius: destructive, deadly; decisive, final.

Def. 1. that cannot be denied, changed, delayed, opposed, etc., as a command; leaving no room for denial or refusal; imperative. 2. imperious or dictatorial. 3. (law) a. excluding debate, question, etc; not requiring that any cause be shown, such as a peremptory challenge of a juror; b. barring further action, debate, or question; decisive or final; c. in which a command is absolute and unconditional. 4. intolerantly positive or assertive in speech, tone, manner, etc; dictatorial; dogmatic; imperious.

-The diktat that came down from his office would have been more tolerable if not accompanied by his peremptory attitude.

- The charges leveled against the esteemed professor were many. The last was a peremptory abandonment of his teaching duties that constituted a point of no return for both the professor and the university.

- [Winning Katharina's hand and love) will be nothing, for I am as peremptory as she is proud-minded. (Petruccio to Katharina's father) *Taming of the Shrew* II-i-132.

- “Ha! Ha! Pass the wine.” Whether Mr. Tupman was somewhat indignant at the peremptory tone in which he was desired to pass the wine which the stranger passed [drank] so quickly away...is a fact not yet completely ascertained. Dickens: *Pickwick Papers* II-16 Oxford.

-He always managed to keep his treasury empty. He would bury part of his money under some river bank, which he observed paid no interest; but out away from him [his money] must go peremptorily, as Hagar's offspring Ischmael into the wilderness. Charles Lamb: *The Two Races of Men*.

-Tomorrow be in readiness to go. Excuse it not, for I am peremptory. *Two Gentlemen of Verona* I-iii-70.

-Sir, your presence is too bold and peremptory. *I-Henry IV*: I-iii-17.

-Since previous decrees in regard to this matter have been ignored, this will be His Excellency 's last and peremptory warning. Manzoni: *The Betrothed*.

-She sent for Joseph, who was sitting without with his Fanny...but he peremptorily refused to leave Fanny behind. Joseph Andrews.

-...complained that the prosecutor's use of peremptory strikes to remove male jurors because they were male violated the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment.

-Prince John, suddenly called by high and peremptory public duties, held himself obliged to discontinue the entertainments of to-morrow's festival. Scott: *Ivanhoe*.

- [Front-de-Boeuf tells his prisoner he may have his life for a thousand silver pounds.] My purpose is deep and peremptory. Scott: Ivanhoe.

- As he uttered these words, he turned and took the road against the hill, with a haste that seemed as peremptory as his tone of authority. Scott: The Heart of Mid-Lothian 11-114.

Probatum Est: [proh 'bah tum 'est]

< L. It has been proved or tested.

-Why, if the nights seem tedious—take a wife; or rather, truly, if your point be rest, lettuce and cowslip wine, probatum est. Pope: The First Satire of the Second Book of Horace.

- Proposed memo for U.S. pharmaceuticals to present to the Food and Drug Administration: Our pill the Brits has much impressed; On germs: it works beside the best, For search and slay it does with zest; Its case for safety's laid to rest; Release it please! Probatum Est.

Q.E.D.

< L.

Def. Quid Erat Demonstrandum = “that which has been demonstrated” or “which was to be proved” (used at the end of geometrical proofs to state that the original hypothesis has been proven).

-If death, said my father, reasoning with himself, is nothing but the separation of the soul from the body; and if it is true that people can walk about and do their business without brains (citing a Walloon officer who was quite able after losing a part of his brain at the battle of Landen), then certes the soul does not inhabit there*.

Q.E.D. (*in the pineal gland, as postulated by Descartes). Tristram Shandy II-XIX-107.

11. VALIDITY-FIDELITY TO IDEAL or TRUTH (cf. Truth; Certainty; Validity; Conclusion).

camera obscura

plausible (see INVALID)

tenable (cf. Safety-Secure)

touchstone

veracity-veracious (see TRUTH)

verisimilitude (cf. Truth)

Camera Obscura: ['kam Əru əhb 'skU ru]

< L. Camera = a vaulted chamber, vault + Obscura + Obscurus = covered, dark obscure > LL. Camera Obscura = dark chamber.

Def. a darkened boxlike device in which images of external objects, received through an aperture, are exhibited in their natural colors on a surface arranged to receive them: used for sketching, exhibition purposes, etc.

-If we suppose a view of nature represented with all the truth of the camera obscura, and the same scene represented by a great Artist, how little and mean will the one appear in comparison of the other. Sir Joshua Reynolds: Discourse-XIII.

Tenable: (cf. Safety-Secure) ['ten Əb'l]

< L. Tenere = to hold > OFr. Tenir-Tenant = to hold.

Def. 1. that can be held, defended or maintained, as against attack or dispute. 2. capable of being occupied, possessed, held, or enjoyed, as under certain conditions.

-Their data and methods have been criticized by letters to Science, but their theory is still tenable until the critics themselves have a better case.

-The movement is growing to make a seat in congress tenable for only one term, however long that term might be.

-If financial support for ballet in [major city] does not come soon, the dance situation there will be untenable.

Touchstone: ['tuch 'stohn]

Def. 1. a type of black siliceous stone formerly used to test the purity of gold and silver by the color of the streak left on it when it was rubbed with either metal. 2. any test or criterion for determining the quality, genuineness or value of a thing.

-The pains and trouble of life's experience are touchstones, provings of the heart. Keats: Letters.

- The touchstones of the rule of law are the texts and purposes of constitutional provisions.

-I fear my touchstone touches when I try [test] me, and my counted gold to overly. Edward Taylor: Sacramental Meditation.

-Whether his religion was real, or consisted only in appearance, I shall not presume to say, as I am not possessed of any touchstone which can distinguish the true from the false. Fielding: Tom Jones-54.

Verisimilitude:

< L. Verus = true + Similis = similar > Verisimilis > Verisimilitudo = true likeness.

Def. 1. the appearance of being true or real; 2. something having the mere appearance of being true or real.

- "He and She" is a profeminist play of ideas about two married sculptors (played with sympathy and verisimilitude by Tom Byrn and Molly O'Neill) who enter the same competition. Terry Teachout.

- Coleridge would let go by a fine isolated verisimilitude caught from the penetralium of mystery. Keats, letter to George and Thomas Keats.

12. REFUTATION-FALSEHOOD-PROVE FALSE (cf. Oppose By Argument; Falsehood; Invalid; Error; Not Authentic; Deceit)

calumny (see also DECEIT; cf. Slander; Ridicule)

casuistry (see INVALID or False Reasoning)

confute

prevaricate-prevarication (see also DECEIT; cf. Slander; Ridicule)

Calumny: (see also DECEIT; cf. Slander; Ridicule) [ˈkæl əm neɪ]

< L. Calumnia: trickery, slander; false statement, misrepresentation; trickery, sham; false accusation.

Def. 1. a false and malicious statement designed to injure the reputation of someone or something. 2. the uttering of such a statement; slander, defamation.

- [Mr. Pickwick oration to fellow members of the club includes a mention that travel in England is on hard times. A voice rings out “No!”] “Who was it that cried ‘No?’ Was it some vain and disappointed man who, jealous of the praise which had been bestowed on Mr. Pickwick’s researches...now took this vile and calumnious mode of—Mr. Blotton rose to order.” Dickens: *The Pickwick Papers*, Oxford 5.

-Her praise of his latest novel was so faint that, knowing the author's habits and ego, I'm sure he will claim calumny.

-...high birth, vigor of bone, desert in service, love, friendship, charity, are subjects all to envious and calumniating time. *Troilus and Cressida* III-iii-174.

-Virtue itself 'scapes not calumnious strokes. *Hamlet* I-iii-38.

-Party honchos immediately rushed to calumniate the press secretary for his partisan statement.

-Now that counsel is unable to indict for lack of evidence, he is directing personal calumnies against the would-be defendants.

- Thus a swarm of foolish novels and monstrous romances will be produced, either to the great impoverishing of booksellers, or to the great loss of time and depravation of morals in the reader; nay, often to the spreading of scandal and calumny, and to the prejudice of the characters of many worthy and honest people. Fielding: *Tom Jones*-422.

Confute: [kahn ˈfyUt]

< L. Cum: intens. + IE root bhu-t: strike, beat [perhaps > L. Fustis = a stick, staff, cudgel] > Confutare: to check, repress, put down, put to silence, refute.

Def. 1. to prove [a person, statement, etc] to be in error, false, invalid or defective; 2. to overcome or show to be wrong by argument or proof. 3. (obs.) to bring to naught; make useless; confound.

-The identity of these blood stains utterly confutes his alibi.

-Now that their case, or at least their presentation, has been confuted by available evidence, we expect that they'll settle out of court.

- "The life of chastity, poverty and obedience willingly embraced and faithfully lived confutes the conventional wisdom of the world and challenges the commonly accepted vision of life." Pope John-Paul II, March, 2002.

-A society in which any view—no matter how destructive and contrary to history's lessons—is considered worthy of serious consideration, as not yet confuted, is a society approaching anarchy.

-A prince the moment he is crowned, inherits every virtue round; but once you fix him in a tomb, his virtues fade, his vices bloom; and each perfection wrong imputed, is fully at his death confuted. J. Swift: On Poetry, A Rhapsody.

-I saw that all was deep dissimulation, and contrivance worse and worse. Indeed I might have shewn them his letter to me as a full confutation. Samuel Richardson: Pamela.

-in confutation of which rude reproach... I crave the benefit of law of arms. I- Henry VI. IV-i-180.

-His interpretation of Soviet perestroika is confuted by what the Soviets themselves say, namely that the obstacles to perestroika are numerous (1988).

-These (research) findings are as yet unable to confute the direct evidence of hundreds of witnesses to the (drug's) effects as a palliative.

- Jack paused to compliment [The Reverend] Mr. White on his sermon (a strongly-worded confutation of Arminianism) O'Brian: H.M.S. Surprise-247.

13. ARTIFICIAL-FAKE-COUNTERFEIT-IMITATION

apocryphal

bogus

cozen (see FRAUD)

ersatz (cf. Inferior)

factitious

flimflam (see FRAUD-DECEIT)

hokey

meretricious (see TACKY; Depravity)

pinchbeck

potemkin

simulacrum (cf. Representation; Similarity; Misrepresent; Essence)

spurious

succedaneum

surrogate (see REPRESENTATIVE-AMBASSADOR)

Apocryphal: [ə 'pah krɪ ful or ə 'pah kri ful]

< Gk. Apo- = away + Kryptein = to hide > Apokryphos = hidden, obscure.

Def. Apocrypha: 1. a) pl. a group of 14 books, not considered canonical, included in the Septuagint and the Vulgate as part of the editions of the Old Testament, but usually omitted from Protestant editions of the Bible. b) various writings of uncertain origin falsely attributed to Biblical characters or kept out of the New Testament because not accepted as resulting from revelation. 2. any writings, anecdotes, etc., of doubtful authenticity or authorship. Apocryphal: 1. (cap.) of or like the Apocrypha; of doubtful sanction; uncanonical. 2. of doubtful authorship or authenticity. 3. not genuine; false, spurious; counterfeit.

-His stories of glory with the marines in the Pacific during WW II turned out to be apocryphal.

-Jack kept chasing after Jones, whom he had heard so much about, but Jones had always "just left." Jack was about to decide that Jones was a fabulous, apocryphal creature.

-The toilet seat theory of venereal disease is apocryphal.

-Lately there have come out new versions of Gone With the Wind (The Wind Done Gone) and Les Miserables. Even the Bible has commentators who expropriate its characters and run with them, creating all kinds of commentary, apocrypha, exegesis and insight.

Bogus: ['boh gus]

< U.S. slang: counterfeiter's apparatus. ? rel. to bogie.

Def. 1. (Printing, Journalism.) matter set, by union requirement, by a compositor and later discarded, duplicating the text of an advertisement for which a plate has been supplied or type set by another publisher. 2. not genuine; spurious; counterfeit.

-All hat and no cattle: bogus credentials for the title "Texan."

Ersatz: ['er zats or 'er zahts]

< OHG. Ir- = out + Sezzan = to set > Irsezzan > Ger. Ersetzen = to replace > Ersatz = a substitute; replacement.

Def. (adj.) imitation or substitute, usually suggesting inferior quality; synthetic, shoddy; an artificial substance or article used to replace something natural or genuine.

-The standard salad-bar seafood salad has ersatz lobster.

- It is funny-odd and funny-ha ha that the ersatz authors of airheaded profundities struggle so hard to prove their literary paternity at a time when the author of the most interesting title in years is hiding in assiduous anonymity.

-As the child of a flamboyant, wealthy evangelist, she became disillusioned with what she came to see as ersatz religion.

-...an ersatz legislature called together to serve the needs of the putsch.

Factitious: [fak 'ti shƏs]

< L. Facio-Facere-Factum = to make, do; past.p. Factum > Facticius = made by art; artificial.

Def. 1. artificial; contrived; not genuine, spontaneous, or natural; forced or artificial (factitious tears). 2. made; manufactured.

-The centerpiece bouquet was factitious.

-Most men...are so occupied with the factitious cares and superfluously coarse labors of life that its inner fruits cannot be plucked by them. Thoreau: Walden.

Hokey [‘hoh kee]

< Hokum: nonsense, bunk; low comedy introduced as filler, or sentimental matter of a stereotyped kind introduced into a play, etc.

Def. 1. faked, false, contrived; artificial, phony. 2. corny, trite; mawkishly sentimental.

-..., but the curtain is far too hokey to serve as a partition for a dining room as formal as this.

-The hokiness of Hollywood fame got to him too. He would say “Even my friendships are related to ratings.”

Pinchbeck: [‘pinch ‘bek]

< named after Christopher Pinchbeck (d. 1732), English watchmaker-jeweler and inventor of the gold-imitation alloy.

Def. n. 1. an alloy of copper and zinc, used in imitation of gold, esp. for cheap jewelry. 2. something sham, imitation, or counterfeit. adj. 3. made of pinchbeck. 4. cheap; imitation, sham or counterfeit; spurious.

-He was glib as usual, but equally as usual, his argument was pinchbeck.

-The wager was genuine, the money pinchbeck.

Potemkin: [poh 'temp kin]

< Grigori Aleksandrovich Potemkin, 1739-1791; Russian Field Marshal, a favorite of Catherine the Great.

Def. a sham façade thrown up by Grigori Potemkin to line the route of the Empress Catherine on her tour of the Crimea in the late 18th century.

-The “global village” consists mostly of England (a fairy-tale kingdom whose streets are strewn with flowers and whose cathedrals reverberate with the croonings of Elton John) and France (a sunny Mediterranean playground for the rich governed by grim Parisian bureaucrats who can't enforce speed limits). Nothing outrages the Washington newspaper journalist, who yearns mostly to go straight from sophomoric to soporific on network television. The “village” the networks portray is a Potemkin village. Pruden.

Simulacrum (cf. Representation; Similarity; Misrepresent) [sim yU 'lak rum]

< L. Simul = together with, likewise, image > Simlis = like > Simulare-Simulatus = to feign, simulate (> Eng. simulate).

Def. 1. an image or representation of something. 2. a mere pretense; an unreal or vague semblance of something; a slight, unreal or superficial likeness; imitation, vague representation. 3. An effigy, image, imitation, counterfeit, travesty, sham; something having the semblance but not the substance.

-Beckett was uninterested in the standard material of literature: heroes, incidents, resolution, endings (happy or otherwise), simulacra of daily reality. For him, a simple perception prevailed: reductio is always ad absurdum.

-This (art) exhibit is—to pinch a term from Jean Baudrillard, the French semiotician whose phrases are parroted everywhere in the art world, and recur like pious ejaculations in the exhibition catalogue—a "simulacrum." It is a pseudo-event.

-With the real thing playing nightly on TV (the Persian Gulf War), the question is whether this (war novel) will, as a simulacrum, engage the reader of today.

-Their position was that the enactment of universal military training would create a simulacrum of power without the reality.

Spurious: ['spyU ree us]

< LL. Spurius = false, illegitimate.

Def. 1. illegitimate, bastard. 2. a) lacking authenticity or validity in essence or origin; b) constituting a forgery or interpolation; false, counterfeit; not genuine; 3. (Bot) similar in appearance but unlike in structure or function.

-All other feelings are false and spurious, and tend to corrupt our minds, to vitiate our primary morals, to render us unfit for rational liberty. Burke: Reflections on the Revolution in France.

- The opposition is trying to make a point. Our point is that theirs is spurious.

-...Lincoln's home, largely spurious, with period furniture most visitors accepted as his personal belongings.

-A word needs to be said about the intellectual spuriousness of (reviewer's) attack on the author.

-The lecture represented good feelings, even better intentions, and spurious logic.

Succedaneum-Succedaneous: [ˈsuk ə ˈdeɪ neɪ um]

< L. Sub = under + Cedere = to come, go > Succedere = to go under, go from under, ascend; come after or into the place of, follow, succeed [as an heir to a throne] > Succedaneous = taking another's place, substituted > neut. sing. Succedaneum.

Def. Succedaneum: a substitute.

- As Evelyn says, "The earth, especially if fresh, has a certain magnetism in it, by which it attracts the salt, power, virtue (call it either) which gives it life, and is the logic of all the labor and stir we keep about it, to sustain us; all dungings and other sordid temperings being but the vicars succedaneous to this improvement." Thoreau: Walden.

14. INVALID-FAULTY REASONING-CONTRADICTION (cf. Not Authentic; Fraud)

antilogy

casuistry

deconstruction (cf. Dispute)

equivocal (see UNCERTAIN)

eristic or eristical: (cf. Conflict; Fine Distinction)

flimflam (see FRAUD; cf. Apocryphal)

nugatory (see TRIVIAL-SMALL)

paralogism

plausible (cf. Validity)

skew

sophistry-sophistical

specious (-ness)

syllogism (see also LOGIC)

Antilogy: [an 'til ogy]

< Gk. Anti = against + Legein = to speak > Logos = a word > Antilogia = controversy, discussion.

Def. a contradiction in terms, statements, or ideas {an oxymoron}.

-Educators across the country are excitedly watching preparations for the opening of a new all-girls' public school in New York City. Meanwhile, the nation's last remaining all-male public college is being forced to admit women. Label it "Same-Sex Antilogy."

Casuistry: [ca 'zhU istree]

< L. Casus = case > Fr. Casuiste = Sophist.

Def. 1. sophisticated or equivocal reasoning; fallacious or dishonest application of principles of logic; subtle but misleading, evasive or false reasoning, esp. about moral issues; quibbling; sophistry. 2. the solving of specific cases of conscience or of right and wrong in conduct by applying general principles of ethics.

-...bondage to medieval-scholastic casuistry about permissible and impermissible usury.

-This interpretation is casuistry; it refuses to rely on basic cognitive skills and shows no faith in sequential argument.

-Morality by her false guardians drawn chicane (chicanery) in furs and casuistry in lawn. Pope: New Duncian, Book Four.

-See skulking truth to her old cavern fled; mountains of casuistry heap'd o'er her head. Pope; Dunciad.

-In the darkest doubts it [the conscience in earnest control of a person] shall conduct him safer than a thousand casuists... Sterne: Tristram Shandy II-XVII-95.

-By constructing these regulations, the judge betrays his constitutional casuistry. Judges who can no longer perceive the irrelevance of their feelings should resign and run for Congress.

-Centuries ago, there were Roman Catholic priests who looked for ways to relieve people of guilt by justifying sins ranging from missing Mass to murder. Casuists of the 17th century said: "It is permitted to kill another to defend one's expectations," or "It is not breaking a fast to eat little but often." That approach to moral reasoning was called casuistry, and it is being targeted as unacceptable in Pope John Paul II's encyclical on Christian morality.

- [The abbess and her companion, the young convent novice Margarita, are traveling to Bourbon to take in the hot medicinal baths. After some miles into their journey, the mules decide to go no further. Margarita knows of two words guaranteed to induce progress in any mule, but the words are sinful]. "All sins

whatever,” quoth the abbess, “are held by the confessor of our convent to be either mortal or venial. Now a venial sin being the slightest and least of all sins—being halved—by taking either only the half of it, and leaving the rest—or, by taking it all, and amicably halving it betwixt yourself and another person—in course becomes diluted into no sin at all.” The abbess turned casuist in the distress they were under. Sterne: *Tristram Shandy* VII-XXV-357.

-Upon this subject, the good man went through such a variety of nice and casuistical problems, supposed so many extreme cases, made the distinctions so critical and nice betwixt the right hand and the left hand—betwixt compliance and defection—holding back and stepping aside—snares and errors—that at length he was brought to the broad admission, that each man’s conscience, after he had gained a certain view of the difficult navigation, would be the best guide for his pilotage. Scott: *The Heart of Mid-Lothian* 43-440.

Deconstruction:-Deconstructionism: (cf. Dispute) [‘dee kahn ‘struk tion]

Def. An approach, introduced by French philosopher Jacques Derrida, which rigorously pursues the meaning of a text to the point of exposing the supposed contradictions and internal oppositions upon which it is founded—showing that those foundations are irreducibly complex, unstable, or impossible. Deconstruction generally tries to demonstrate that any text (usually of literature or philosophy) is not a discreet whole but contains several irreconcilable and contradictory meanings; that any text therefore has more than one interpretation; that the text itself links these interpretations inextricably; that the incompatibility of these interpretations is irreducible; and thus that an interpretive reading cannot go beyond a certain point. Deconstruction is not a dismantling of the structure of a text, but a demonstration that it has already dismantled itself. Its apparently-solid round is no rock but thin air. No book, no life, no event has a fixed content: the individual’s perception or reaction to it is the only reality.

- John Stuart Mill, the great muse of the open mind, taught us that as long as a single person believes something to be so, it is not correct for society to consider the question as closed. Academic freedom patterned on such thought moved quite logically toward the deconstructionist position that nothing is ever proved, or provable.

- The assumption that nothing in history is certain is nurtured in the uneducated by academic advocacy of epistemological indeterminacy. Deconstruction theory teaches that history is a mere story with no meaning beyond what any individual reads into it.

Eristic or Eristical: (cf. Conflict-Argue; Fine Distinction) [er ‘is tik]

< Gk. Eris = discord, strife > Erizein = to strive, dispute.

Def. 1. (adj.) of or provoking controversy or disputation, or given to sophistical argument and specious reasoning. n. 2. eristic discourse; the art of disputation; sophistical argument. 3. a person who engages in

such discourse, disputation or argument; controversialist. {think of Eristic to describe attack or counterattack through sophistry or casuistry}.

-But Socrates, after such an answer, will not the all-wise eristics be down on us with difficult questions?

Plato: Dialogues.

-These lawyers, practicing their eristic arts, formulated constructions by which one could plausibly contend that Elvis Presley was born and raised in London.

- He is always raising exquisitely eristic objections.

-The Dada movement was eristic.

-Plato accused the sophists of degenerating into hair-splitting, frivolous argumentativeness and eristic discussions designed to confuse the issue.

- [Concerning demand for retribution against the populace of a nation whose government and army aggressed and were defeated.] Such a demand strikes the ear as eristic: the pettifoggery of the money-changer at the counting table oblivious to the joyous noises of wives and parents greeting husbands and sons.

-In 1948 Pope Pius XII issued a writ of excommunication of any Catholic who voted with the Communists, who were trying to undermine the Christian Democrats. Pope Paul II just counseled Polish union leader Lech Walesa to remain for tactical reasons within the communist system. A canonical lawyer given to eristic advocacy could theoretically prove that by giving such advice John Paul has excommunicated himself. 1980.

-He elected not to contend on these matters even though the arguments were there for him to make. That was a wise decision, since eristic argumentation at this tedious moment is exactly what nobody except the media wants.

Paralogism: [ˈpɛr u loh ˈjɪzəm]

< Gk. Logos = a discourse, reason > Logizesthai = to reason + Para = beyond > Paralogizesthai = to reason illogically.

Def. 1. reasoning contrary to the rules of logic; argument that is faulty from violating principles of valid reasoning. 2. a conclusion reached through such argument.

-Fortunately the high court struck down the district judge's paralogisms.

- Issues A and B have no bearing on which way each is going. That they are cause and effect is a paralogism, but that should not authorize scornful inattention to the superficial appearance that they are.

-Let's trace the syllogisms and the paralogisms in this encounter. On a purely theoretical chart, we have a syllogism at work here: a series of propositions leading to a conclusion. But in a deductive series, the

conclusion is valid only if all premises are beyond dispute. Moving into practical reality, we have a paralogram in that the second proposition is indeed arguable.

Plausible: (cf. Validity) [ˈplawz ible]

< L. Plaudere = to clap, strike, beat, make a clapping noise, clap, show signs of approval, applaud >

Plausibilis = worthy of applause.

Def. 1. which at first glance is apparently true, reasonable, valid, etc., but which may or may not be true. {there is no connotation of deliberate deception, vs. "specious"}; having an appearance of truth or reason; seemingly true, acceptable, etc.; seemingly worthy of approval or acceptance; credible; believable: often implying disbelief.

2. seemingly honest, trustworthy, etc: often implying distrust. 3. of a person: well-spoken and apparently worthy of confidence.

-The defendant's self-described itinerary on that day is plausible, as we have acknowledged. That will no longer be the case after we have adduced some facts.

-Twenty two years of age seems a bit young to be running for the legislature, but his bearing during the first debate shows him to be a plausible candidate.

Skew: [skU]

< OFr. Eschiver > ME. Skewe = to slip away, swerve.

Def. vi. 1. to take a slanting or oblique course or direction; swerve or twist. 2. to look obliquely; squint or glance sideways at. vt. 3. to make slanting or oblique; set at a slant; shape, cut or form obliquely. 4. to bias, distort or pervert.

-Lying as a way of communication has caused here a subtle skewing of sense, a distortion of logic.

Sophistry-Sophistical: (cf. Fine Distinction) [ˈsof is tree]

< Gk. Sophos = clever, skillful, wise > Sophizesthai = to play the sophist, act the sophist, become wise >

Sophistes = wise man, sophist, sage > Sophisma.

Def. Sophism: a clever and plausible but fallacious argument or form of reasoning, whether or not intended to deceive; fallacy or sophistry.

Def. Sophist: 1. a) in ancient Greece, any of a group of teachers of rhetoric, politics, philosophy, general culture, disputation, etc., some of whom were notorious for their clever, specious arguments. b) a person belonging to this class of professional teachers at a later period who, while professing to teach skill in reasoning, concerned himself with ingenuity and specious effectiveness rather than soundness of argument.

2. a learned person. 3. any person practicing clever, specious argument rather than soundness of reasoning.

Def. Sophistry: unsound, fallacious or misleading but clever, superficially plausible and subtle argument or reasoning; a false argument, sophism. 2. the methods or practices of the Sophists.

Def. Sophistical: 1. of or characteristic of sophists or sophistry. 2. clever and plausible, but unsound and tending to mislead. 3. using sophistry.

-His argument convinced them, but it was sophistical. They didn't detect the faulty data that made up his premise.

-In Love Story (the movie) Segal tries to be clever. But his dialogue is less sophisticated than sophistical.

-Lincoln warned us not to be diverted by those sophistical contrivances wherewith we are so industriously plied and belabored—contrivances such as groping for some middle ground between the right and the wrong.

-There foamed rebellious logic, gagg'd and bound; There stript, fair rhet'ric languished on the ground; His blunted arms by Sophistry are born; And shameless billingsgate her robes adorn. Pope: The New Dunciad, Fourth Book.

- [Those who believe in the existence of ghosts argue that]...had there been no true shilling, there had been no counterfeit. This seems wholly a piece of sophistry. William Shenstone: An Opinion of Ghosts.

-His argument is sheer sophistry, more to be marveled at than imitated.

-The article recounted many of the sophisms used by his team of scandalette defenders.

-Can any pleasure compensate these evils? Can any temptation have sophistry and delusion strong enough to persuade you to so simple [and self destructive] a bargain? Fielding: Tom Jones-45.

Specious: ['spee shus]

< L. root Spec- = look, behold > Species = look, show, appearance {to some extent how animal species are named} > Speciosus = showy, beautiful, plausible.

Def. 1. seeming to be good, plausible but not genuine, such as specious logic; apparently good or right but lacking real merit; superficially pleasing.

-The candidate's promises are specious, laced with modifiers he hopes nobody will be on to.

-The reasoning (by which Shakespeare is criticized for combining elements of tragedy and comedy in one play) is so specious that is received as true even by those who by experience feel it to be false.

-He has been so often imposed upon by specious titles that (now) he never buys a book till its character is established. S. Johnson: Rambler.

- His (lawyer's) speech to the jury was a litany of specious distortions.

-Your argument may be specious, but it is not sound. O'Brian: Mauritius Command-210.

15. ERROR (cf. Discrepancy)

contretemps (see INOPPORTUNE)

erratum-errata (cf. Language)

faux pas

gaffe

glitch

malapropism (cf. Language)

solecism

Erratum-Errata: [er 'raht um – er 'rah tƏ]

< L. Errare-Erratus = to wander, stray, rove, wander from the right path > Erratus-Erratum = error, mistake >

Erraticus-a-um = wandering, erratic > Errata-us-um = wandered about, wandered, erred, strayed.

Def. Erratum: an error in printing or writing.

Def. Errata: a list of errors with their corrections, inserted on a separate "errata page" of a published work.

-Each candidate brought (to the debate) topic notes and, as if their managers had colluded, opponents' economic errata.

Gaffe: [gaf]

< OFr. = hook.

Def. a clumsy social error; a faux pas. A blatant mistake or misjudgment.

-The hours, the social climate, and the accommodations had all been misunderstood. It was now clear to him that signing on for this tour was an embarrassing gaffe; embarrassing, because he was experienced enough to know how to avoid these situations.

Glitch: [glitch]

< Ger. colloq. Glitsch = a slip.

Def. (slang) a mishap, error, malfunctioning.

-As for the president's foreign tour, inevitably it is the glitches that will be remembered.

Malapropism: (cf. Language) ['mal Ə prahp 'ism]

< Mrs. Malaprop, a character in *The Rivals*, a play by Richard B. Sheridan.

Def. a ludicrous misuse of a word.

- "Our new executive was born in an orpheim asylum." Bernstein.

-Malapropisms from the doctor's office: The dermatologist used a Lancelot [lancenette] on me. Be gentle if you're going to palpitate [palpate] my liver. I've got mitral valve prophylaxis [prolapse]. For birth control, my wife takes No Ovum {either Ortho Novum, or she's post-menopausal}.

Solecism: ['soh lə 'sism]

< inhabitants of Soloi in Asia Minor spoke a corrupt form of Attic, the Athenian dialect of Greek.

Def. 1. a violation of conventional usage or grammar of a language; substandard usage of words; a mistake in grammar or idiom. 2. deviation from accepted form or norm; impropriety; breach of etiquette.

- The use of data as if it were a singular noun is a common solecism: "London psychiatrist asserts data is lacking...." Bernstein.

- [Write your sermons in script large enough that you can read them easily]...for we your hearers would rather you should be less correct than perpetually stammering, which I take to be one of the worst solecisms [improprieties] in rhetorick. J. Swift: A Letter to a Gentleman Designing for Holy Orders.

-After reading your notes on the subject of the "Titanic," I have one acidulous comment to make: Why do you assume that when a ship dies she loses her gender? You refer to the corpse of a majestic, devastated lady as "it." I consider you guilty therefore of an unmitigated solecism, all the more horrendous in coming from you, a seasoned salt. Cortlandt Forum: Letters to Buckley.

-Another kind of double duty involves the use of a single term in two different senses. Take, for instance, this bifocal sentence: "Kwame Nkrumah, born in the mud-hut village of Nkroful in 1909, is pronounced as if it were spelled Qua-meh- En-kroo-mah." First, Nkrumah is treated as a person (born.... in 1909), then as a name ("pronounced as if...."). A similar solecism appears in the following passage from Gibbon: "The Bulgarians, a name so innocent in origin, so odious in its application, spread their branches over the face of Europe."

- Mr. Saddletree: He was no better than *civis ex populo*. Mr. Butler: Quivis-quivis, Mr. Saddletree, craving your pardon. If Counselor [lawyer] Crossmyloof used the dative for the nominative, I would have crossed his loof with a tight leathern strap, Mr. Saddletree; there is not a boy on the booby form but would have been scourged for such a solecism in grammar. Walter Scott: The Heart of Mid-Lothian Ch.4, 46.

-Your air was often diffident, but absolutely unused to society, and a good deal afraid of making herself disadvantageously conspicuous by some solecism or blunder. Brontë: Jane Eyre III-I-313.

- In my mother's opinion, gesticulating at [dinner] table was a solecism as bad as belching.

16. SUPPOSITION-THEORY-UNCERTAIN-SEEMING (cf. Suggestion)

equivocal (cf. Invalid; Equivalency; Misleading)

in posse

pendent-pendency

peradventure

purport (see also PROFESS-DECLARE)

putative

surmise (cf. Logic; Evidence)

tenor (cf. Meaning)

wis (see ARCHAIC)