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THIRD EDITION

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endowment  
engage

dowry to (< Lat. *dōtare* < *dōs*, *dōt*, dowry; see *dō-*.)

**en·dow·ment** (en-dou'ment) *n.* 1. The act of endowing. 2. Funds or property donated to an institution, an individual, or a group. 3. A natural gift, ability, or quality.

**end·pa·per** also **end paper** (end'pā'pər) *n.* Either of two folded sheets of heavy paper having one half pasted to the inside front or back cover of a book and the other half pasted to the base of the first or last page.

**end plate** *n.* *Physiol.* The area of synaptic contact between a motor nerve and a muscle fiber.

**end·play** (end'plā') *n.* *Games.* — *n.* A play in bridge that forces an opponent to lead and results in the opponents' losing one or more tricks that they would have won had they not been leading. — *tr.v.* **played**, **play·ing**, **plays**. To force (a bridge opponent) to lead disadvantageously.

**end·point** or **end point** also **end-point** (end'point') *n.* 1. Either of two points marking the end of a line segment. 2. *Chem.* The point in a titration at which no more titrant should be added. 3. A tip or point of termination.

**end product** *n.* The result of a completed series of processes or changes.

**end run** *n.* 1. *Football.* A play in which the ball carrier attempts to run around one end of the defensive line. 2. *Informal.* A maneuver in which impediments are bypassed, often by deceit or trickery.

**end-run** (end'rūn') *tr.v.* **-ran** (-rān'), **-run·ning**, **-runs**. *Informal.* To bypass (an impediment) often by deceit or trickery.

**end-stopped** (end'stōpt') *adj.* Ending in a syntactic and rhythmic pause. Used of a line of verse or a couplet.

**end table** *n.* A small table, usu. placed at either end of a couch or beside a chair.

**en·due** (en-dūō', -dyōō') also **in·due** (in-) *tr.v.* **-dued**, **-du·ing**, **-dues**. 1. To provide with a quality or trait; endow. 2. To put on (a piece of clothing). [ME *enduen* < OFr. *enduire*, to lead in, induct < Lat. *inducere*. See *INDUCE*. Sense 2, ME *induen*, to clothe < Lat. *inducere*, to put on. See *EN-*.]

**en·dur·a·ble** (en-dūr'ə-bəl, -dyūr'ə-) *adj.* Possible to be endured; tolerable or bearable. — **en·dur'ə·bly** *adv.*

**en·dur·ance** (en-dūr'əns, -dyūr'ə-) *n.* 1. The act, quality, or power of withstanding hardship or stress. 2. The state or fact of persevering. 3. Continuing existence; duration.

**en·dure** (en-dūr'ə, -dyūr'ə) *v.* **-dured**, **-dur·ing**, **-duras**. — *tr.* 1. To carry on through despite hardships; undergo. 2. To bear with tolerance: *endure the consequences*. See *Syns at bear*<sup>1</sup>. — *intr.* 1. To continue in existence; last: *endured for centuries*. 2. To suffer patiently without yielding. [ME *enduren* < OFr. *endurer* < Lat. *indurare*, to make hard: *in-*, against, into; see *EN-* + *durus*, hard; see *DERIV.*.]

**en·dur·ing** (en-dūr'ing, -dyūr'ing) *adj.* 1. Lasting; continuing; durable: *a novel of enduring interest*. 2. Long-suffering; patient. — **en·dur'ing·ly** *adv.* — **en·dur'ing·ness** *n.*

**en·dur·o** (en-dūr'ō, -dyūr'ō) *n., pl. -os*. *Sports.* A race, as of motorcycles or runners, that tests endurance.

**end user** also **end-user** (end'yoo'zər) *n.* The final consumer of a product, esp. the one for whom the product is designed.

**end·wise** (end'wīz') also **end-ways** (-wāz') *adv.* 1. On end; upright. 2. With the end foremost. 3. Lengthwise. 4. End to end.

**En·dym·i·on** (en-dim'ē-an) *n.* *Gk. Myth.* A handsome young man who was loved by Selene and whose youth was preserved by eternal sleep.

**end zone** *n.* *Football.* The area at either end of the playing field between the goal line and the end line.

**ENE** *abbr.* East-northeast.

**-ene** *suff.* An unsaturated organic compound, esp. one containing a double bond between carbon atoms: *ethylene*. [*<* Gk. *ēnē*, fem. adj. *suff.*.]

**en·e·ma** (en'ə-mə) *n., pl. -mas*. 1. The injection of liquid into the rectum through the anus for therapeutic or diagnostic purposes, such as stimulating evacuation of the bowels. 2. The fluid so injected. [LLat. < Gk. *enēnai*, to send in, inject: *en-*, in; see *EN-* + *hēnai*, to send; see *YE-*.]

**en·e·my** (en'ə-mē) *n., pl. -mies*. 1. One who feels hatred toward, intends injury to, or opposes another; a foe. 2. a. A hostile power or force, such as a nation. b. A member or unit of such a force. 3. A group of foes or hostile forces. See *Usage Note at collective noun*. 4. Something destructive or injurious in its effects. — *adj.* Of, relating to, or being a hostile power or force. [ME *enemi* < OFr. < Lat. *inimicus*: *m-*, not; see *IN-* + *amicus*, friend.]

*Syns: enemy, foe, opponent.* The central meaning shared by these nouns is "one who is hostile to or opposes the purposes or interests of another": *betrayed by enemies; a foe of fascism; a political opponent.*

**en·er·get·ic** (en'ər-jēt'ik) *adj.* 1. Possessing, exerting, or displaying energy. 2. Of or relating to energy. [Gk. *energētikos* < *energein*, to be active < *energos*, active. See *ENERGY*.] — **en'·er·get'ic·ly** *adv.*

**en·er·get·ics** (en'ər-jēt'iks) *n.* (used with a *sing. v.*) 1. The study of the flow and transformation of energy. 2. The flow and transformation of energy within a particular system.

**en·er·gize** (en'ər-jīz') *v.* **-gized**, **-giz·ing**, **-giz·es**. — *tr.* 1. To

give energy to; activate or invigorate. 2. To supply with an electric current; connect to a source of electricity. — *intr.* To release or put out energy. — **en'·er·giz'er** *n.*

**en·er·gy** (en'ər-jē) *n., pl. -gies*. 1. The capacity for work or vigorous activity; vigor; power. See *Syns at strength*. 2. a. Exertion of vigor or power. b. Vitality and intensity of expression. 3. a. Usable heat or power. b. A source of usable power, such as petroleum or coal. 4. *Phys.* The capacity of a physical system to do work. [Fr. *énergie* < LLat. *energia* < Gk. *energeia* < *energos*, active: *en-*, in, at; see *EN-* + *ergon*, work; see *WERG-*.]

**energy audit** *n.* An evaluation of energy consumption, as in a home or business, to determine how energy can be conserved.

**energy density** *n.* The energy per unit volume of a region of space.

**energy efficiency ratio** *n.* A measure of the efficiency of a heating or cooling unit, equal to the unit's output in BTU's per hour divided by its consumption of energy in watts.

**energy level** *n.* 1. The energy characteristic of a stationary state of a physical system, esp. a quantum mechanical system. 2. The stationary state of a quantum mechanical system.

**en·er·vate** (en'ər-vāt') *tr.v.* **-vat·ed**, **-vat·ing**, **-vates**. 1. To weaken or destroy the strength or vitality of. See *Syns at deplete*. 2. *Medic.* To remove a nerve or part of a nerve. — *adj.* (ī-nūr'vīt). Deprived of strength; debilitated. [Lat. *ēnervāre*, *ēnervāt-*: *ē-*, *ex-* + *nervus*, sinew; see (s)neuv-\*.] — **en'·er·va'tion** *n.* — **en'·er·va'tive** *adj.* — **en'·er·va'tor** *n.*

**E·nes·co** (ə-nēs'kō, ē-nēs'kō), *Georgas*. 1881–1955. Romanian-born violinist and composer whose works include the opera *Oedipus* (1936).

**en·face** (en-fās') *tr.v.* **-faced**, **-fac·ing**, **-fac·es**. To write on the face of (a check, for example). — **en·face'ment** *n.*

**en·fant ter·ri·ble** (än-fän' tē-rē'blō) *n.* **en·fant ter·ri·bles** (än-fän' tē-rē'blō). One whose unconventional behavior, work, or ideas are a source of embarrassment or dismay to others. [Fr.: *enfant*, child + *terrible*, frightful.]

**en·fee·ble** (en-fē'bal) *tr.v.* **-bled**, **-bling**, **-bles**. To make feeble; weaken. — **en·fee'ble·ment** *n.* — **en·fee'bler** *n.*

**en·feoff** (en-fēf', -fēf') *tr.v.* **-feoffed**, **-feoff·ing**, **-feoffs**. To invest with a feudal estate or fee. [ME *enfeoffen* < AN *enfeoffer*: OFr. *en-*, causative pref.; see *EN-* + OFr. *fief*, fief; see *FE-*.] — **en·feoff'ment** *n.*

**en·fet·ter** (en-fēt'tər, in-) *tr.v.* **-tered**, **-ter·ing**, **-ters**. To bind in fetters; enchain.

**En·field** (en'fēld'). A town of N CT near the MA border; settled c. 1680. Pop. 45,532.

**Enfield rifle** *n.* Any of several rifles formerly used by British and American troops, esp. the .30 or .303 caliber bolt-action breechloading model. [After *Enfield*, a borough of London in SE England.]

**en·fil·ade** (en-fī-lād', -lād') *n.* 1. Gunfire directed along the length of a target, such as a column of troops. 2. A target vulnerable to sweeping gunfire. — *tr.v.* **-lad·ed**, **-lad·ing**, **-lades**. To rake with gunfire. [Fr., series, string, row < *enfiler*, to string together, run through < OFr.: *en-*, in, on; see *EN-* + *fil*, thread (< Lat. *filum*; see *GHI-*\*)].

**en·fleu·rage** (ən-flō-rāzh', -rāj') *n.* A process in making perfume in which odorless fats or oils absorb the fragrance of fresh flowers. [Fr. < *enfleurir*, to saturate with the perfume of flowers: *en-*, causative pref.; see *EN-* + *fleur*, flower (< OFr. *flour* < Lat. *flōs*, *flōr*; see *BHEL-*\*)].

**en·fold** (en-fōld') *tr.v.* **-fold·ed**, **-fold·ing**, **-folds**. 1. To cover with or as if with folds; envelop. 2. To hold within limits; enclose. 3. To embrace. — **en·fold'er** *n.*

**en·force** (en-fōrs', -fōrs') *tr.v.* **-forced**, **-forc·ing**, **-forc·es**. 1. To compel observance of or obedience to. 2. To impose (a kind of behavior, for example), compel. 3. To give force to; reinforce. [ME *enforcen* < OFr. *enforcier*, to exert force, compel, and < *enforcair*, to strengthen: *en-*, causative pref.; see *EN-* + *force*, strength; see *FORCE*.] — **en·force'a·bil·i·ty** *n.* — **en·force'a·ble** *adj.* — **en·force'ment** *n.* — **en·forc'er** *n.*

**en·fran·chise** (en-frān'chīz') *tr.v.* **-chised**, **-chis·ing**, **-chis·es**. 1. To bestow a franchise on. 2. To endow with the rights of citizenship, esp. the right to vote. 3. To free, as from bondage. [ME *enfranchisen* < OFr. *enfranchir*, *enfranchiss-*, to set free: *en-*, intensive pref.; see *EN-* + *franchir* (< *franc*, free; see *FRANK*\*)]. — **en·fran'chise'ment** *n.*

**eng.** *abbr.* 1. Engine. 2. Engineer. 3. Engineering.

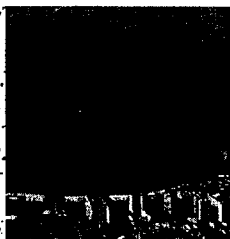
**Eng.** *abbr.* 1. England. 2. English.

**En·ga·dine** (ēng-gə-dēn'). A valley of the Inn R. in E Switzerland, divided into the Upper Engadine in the SW and the Lower Engadine in the NE.

**en·gage** (en-gāj') *v.* **-gaged**, **-gag·ing**, **-gag·es**. — *tr.* 1. To obtain the services of; employ. 2. To arrange for the use of; reserve. 3. To pledge or promise, esp. to marry. 4. To attract and hold the attention of; engross. 5. To win over or attract. 6. To draw into; involve. 7. To require the use of; occupy. 8. To enter or bring into conflict with. 9. To interlock or cause to interlock; mesh: *engage the clutch*. 10. To give or take as security. — *intr.* 1. To involve oneself or become occupied; participate. 2. To assume an obligation; agree. 3. To enter into conflict or battle. 4. To become meshed or inter-

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō tōōk
ā father	ōō bōōt
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	rh thin
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ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ā about
ō paw	ītem

Stress marks:  
/ (primary);  
' (secondary), as in  
dictionary (dik'shə-nēr'ē)

sugar apple  
sulfonate

Sugarloaf Mountain

sugar maple  
*Acer saccharum*

Suleiman I

sugar apple *n.* See sweetsop.  
 sugar beet *n.* A form of the common beet (*Beta vulgaris*) having fleshy white roots from which sugar is obtained.  
 sug·ar·ber·ry (shōōg'ər-bēr'ē) *n.* See hackberry.  
 sugar bush *n.* A grove of sugar maples.  
 sugar cane *n.* A tall tropical southeast Asian grass (*Saccharum officinarum*) having thick tough stems that are a chief source of sugar.  
 sug·ar·coat (shōōg'ər-kōt') *tr.v.* -coat·ed, -coat·ing, -coats. 1. To cause to seem more appealing or pleasant. 2. To coat with sugar: *sugarcoat a pill*.  
 sug·ar·cured (shōōg'ər-kyōōrd') *adj.* Cured with a preparation of sugar, salt, and nitrate: *a sugar-cured ham*.  
 sugar daddy *n.* Slang. A wealthy, usu. older man who gives expensive gifts to a young person in return for sexual favors or companionship.  
 sug·ared (shōōg'ərd) *adj.* 1. Sweetened with sugar. 2. Made more appealing or pleasant.  
 sug·ar·house (shōōg'ər-hous') *n.* A sugar refinery or processing plant, esp. a building in which maple sap is boiled down to yield maple syrup and maple sugar.  
 sug·ar·less (shōōg'ər-lis) *adj.* 1. Containing no sugar. 2. Sweetened with a substance other than sucrose.  
 sugar loaf *n.* 1. A large conical loaf of pure concentrated sugar. 2. Something, such as a mountain, that resembles a loaf of sugar in shape. — sug'ar-loaf' (*shōōg'ər-lōf'*) *adj.*  
 Sug·ar·loaf Mountain (shōōg'ər-lōf'). A peak, 395.3 m (1,296 ft), in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at the entrance to Guanabara Bay.  
 sugar maple *n.* 1. An eastern North American maple tree (*Acer saccharum*) having sap that is the source of maple syrup and maple sugar and hard wood used in cabinetmaking. 2. The wood of this tree.  
 sugar of lead (lēd) *n.* See lead acetate.  
 sugar of milk *n.* Lactose.  
 sugar orchard *n.* See sugar bush.  
 sugar pea *n.* See snow pea.  
 sugar pine *n.* A tall evergreen timber tree (*Pinus lambertiana*) of the Pacific coast of North America having needles with white lines on the back that are grouped in fascicles of five.  
 sug·ar·plum (shōōg'ər-plūm') *n.* A small round piece of sugary candy.  
 sug·ar·y (shōōg'ə-rē) *adj.* 1. er. 1·est. 1. Characterized by or containing sugar. 2. Tasting or looking like sugar. 3. Excessively or cloyingly sweet: *a sugary smile*. — sug'ar·i·ness *n.*  
 sug·gest (səg-jēs't, sə-jēs't) *tr.v.* -gest·ed, -gest·ing, -gests. 1. To offer for consideration or action; propose. 2. To bring or call to mind by logic or association; evoke. 3. To make evident indirectly; intimate or imply. 4. To serve as or provide a motive for; prompt or demand. [Lat. *suggerere*, suggest-; *sub-*, up; see *sub-* + *gerere*, to carry.] — sug·gest'er *n.*  
*Syns:* suggest, imply, hint, intimate<sup>2</sup>, insinuate. These verbs mean to convey thoughts or ideas by indirection. *Suggest* refers to the calling of something to mind as the result of an association of ideas: "his erect and careless attitude suggesting assurance and power" (Joseph Conrad). To *imply* is to suggest a thought or an idea by letting it be inferred from something else, such as a statement, that is more explicit: *The effusive praise the professor heaped on one of the students seemed to imply disapproval of the rest.* *Hint* refers to an oblique or covert suggestion that often contains clues: *My imagination supplied the explanation you only hinted at.* *Intimate* applies to indirect, subtle expression that often reflects discretion, tact, or reserve: *She intimated that the couple had had marital problems.* To *insinuate* is to suggest something, usually something unpleasant, in a sly manner: *The columnist insinuated that the candidate had underworld ties.*  
 sug·gest·i·bil·i·ty (səg-jēs'ta-bil'i-tē, sə-jēs't-) *n.* Responsiveness or susceptibility to suggestion.  
 sug·gest·i·ble (səg-jēs'ta-bəl, sə-jēs't-) *adj.* Readily influenced by suggestion: *suggestible young minds*.  
 sug·ges·tion (səg-jēs'tchən, sə-jēs't-) *n.* 1. The act of suggesting. 2. Something suggested. 3. The process by which one thought or mental image leads to another. 4.a. A psychological process by which an idea is induced in or adopted by another without argument, command, or coercion. b. An idea or response so induced. 5. A hint or trace.  
 sug·ges·tive (səg-jēs'tiv, sə-jēs't-) *adj.* 1.a. Tending to suggest; evocative. b. Stimulating further thought. c. Conveying a hint or suggestion. 2. Tending to suggest something improper or indecent. — sug·ges'tive·ly *adv.* — sug·ges'tive·ness *n.*  
 Su·har·to (sə-hār'tō, sōō-). b. 1921. Indonesian military and political leader who seized power from Sukarno (1967) and became president in 1969.  
 Sul (swā). A Chinese dynasty (581–618) that reunified China after a period of declining centralized government.  
 su·i·cid·al (sōō'i-sid'əl) *adj.* 1. Causing, intending, or relating to suicide. 2. Dangerous to oneself or to one's interests; self-destructive or ruinous. — su'i·cid'al·ly *adv.*  
 su·i·cide (sōō'i-sid') *n.* 1. The act or an instance of intentionally killing oneself. 2. The destruction or ruin of one's

own interests. 3. One who commits suicide. [Lat. *sui*, of one-self; see *S(w)e-* + *-cide*.]  
 su·i·ge·ne·ris (sōō'i'jēn'ər-is, sōō'ē) *adj.* Being the only example of its kind; unique. [Lat. *sui generis*: *sui*, of its own + *generis*, genitive of *genus*, kind.]  
 su·i·int (sōō'int, swint) *n.* A grease formed from dried perspiration found in the fleece of sheep, used as a source of potash. [Fr. < Ofr. < *suer*, to sweat < Lat. *sudare*. See *swid-*.]  
 suit (sōōt) *n.* 1.a. A set of matching outer garments, esp. one consisting of a coat with trousers or a skirt. b. A costume for a special activity: *a diving suit*. 2. A group of things used together; a set or collection. 3. Games. Any of the four sets of 13 playing cards (clubs, diamonds, hearts, and spades) in a standard deck. 4. Attendance required of a vassal at his feudal lord's court or manor. 5. Law. A court proceeding to recover a right or claim. 6. The act or an instance of courting a woman; courtship. — *v.* suit·ed, suit·ing, suits. — *tr.* 1. To meet the requirements of; fit. 2. To make appropriate or suitable; adapt. 3. To be appropriate for; befit. 4. To please; satisfy. 5. To provide with clothing; dress. — *intr.* 1. To be suitable or acceptable. 2. To be in accord; agree or match. — *phrasal verb.* suit up. To put on clothing designed for a special activity. [ME *sute* < AN < VLat. \**sequita*, act of following, fem. of \**sequitus*, p.part. of \**sequere*, to follow < Lat. *sequi*. See *surro*.]  
 suit·a·ble (sōō'ta-bal) *adj.* Appropriate to a purpose or an occasion. — suit'a·bil'i·ty, suit'a·ble·ness *n.* — suit'a·bly *adv.*  
 suit·case (sōō'tkās') *n.* A usu. rectangular piece of luggage for carrying clothing.  
 suite (swēt) *n.* 1. A staff of attendants or followers; a retinue. 2.a. A group of related things intended to be used together; a set. b. (also sōōt). A set of matching furniture. 3. A series of connected rooms used as a living unit. 4. Mus. An instrumental composition consisting of a succession of dances in the same or related keys. [Fr. < Ofr. See *sur*.]  
 suit·ing (sōō'ing) *n.* Fabric from which suits are made.  
 suit·or (sōō'tər) *n.* 1. A man who is courting a woman. 2. A person who makes a petition or request. 3. Law. A person who sues in court; a plaintiff; a petitioner. 4. A person or group seeking to purchase controlling interest in a company. [ME, plaintiff < AN < Lat. *secūtor*, follower < *secūsus*, p.part. of *sequi*, to follow. See *sek-*.]  
 Su·kar·no (sōō-kār'nō). 1901–70. Indonesian politician who served as Indonesia's first president (1949–67) and was ousted from office by a coup d'état.  
 su·ki·ya·ki (sōō'kē-yā'kē, skē-yā'kē) *n.* A Japanese dish of thinly sliced meat, bean curd, and vegetables. [J.]  
 Suk·koth (sōōk'təs, sōō-kōt', sōō-kōt') *n.* Judaism. Var. of Succoth.  
 Su·la·we·si (sōō'lā-wā'sē). See Celebes.  
 sul·cate (sūl'kāt') *adj.* Biol. Having narrow, deep furrows or grooves, as a stem or tissue. [Lat. *sulcātus*, p.part. of *sulcāre*, to furrow < *sulcus*, furrow.]  
 sul·cus (sūl'kəs) *n., pl. -ci* (-kī, -sī). 1. A deep narrow furrow or groove, as in an organ or a tissue. 2. Anat. Any of the narrow fissures separating adjacent convolutions of the brain. [Lat.] — sul'cal *adj.*  
 Su·lei·man I (sōō'lā-mān'ī, -lā). "Suleiman the Magnificent." 1494?–1566. Sultan of Turkey (1520–66) under whose governance the Ottoman Empire reached the height of its power.  
 sul·fa (sūl'fə) *adj.* Of, relating to, or containing sulfanilamide or any sulfa drug. [Short for SULFA(NILAMIDE).]  
 sul·fa·di·a·zine (sūl'fā-dī'ə-zēn') *n.* A sulfa drug, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S, used esp. in the treatment of meningitis.  
 sulfa drug *n.* Any of a group of synthetic organic compounds, derived chiefly from sulfanilamide and capable of inhibiting bacterial growth and activity.  
 sul·fa·nil·a·mide (sūl'fā-nil'ə-mid', -mid) *n.* A white crystalline sulfonamide, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>, used in the treatment of various bacterial infections. [SULF(O)- + ANIL(INE) + AMIDE.]  
 sul·fate (sūl'fāt') *n.* A chemical compound containing the bivalent group SO<sub>4</sub>. — *v.* -fat·ed, -fat·ing, -fates. — *tr.* 1. To treat or react with sulfuric acid or a sulfate. 2. *Elect.* To cause lead sulfate to accumulate on (the plates of a lead-acid battery). — *intr.* To become sulfated. [Fr. < Lat. *sulfur*, sulfur.]  
 sul·fide (sūl'fid') *n.* A compound of bivalent sulfur with an electropositive element or group, esp. a binary compound of sulfur with a metal.  
 sul·fi·nyl (sūl'fā-nil') *n.* The bivalent group SO. [SULF(O)- + -N + -YL.]  
 sul·fite (sūl'fit') *n.* A salt or an ester of sulfurous acid. — sul'fit'ic (-fit'ik) *adj.*  
 sulfo- or sulf- *pref.* Sulfur: *sulfate*. [< SULFUR.]  
 sulfon- *pref.* Sulfonic: *sulfonamide*. [< SULFONE.]  
 sul·fon·a·mide (sūl-fōn'ə-mid', -mid) *n.* 1. Any of a group of organic sulfur compounds containing the radical O<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> and including the sulfa drugs. 2. See sulfa drug.  
 sul·fo·nate (sūl'fā-nāt') *n.* A salt or an ester of sulfonic acid. — *tr.v.* -nat·ed, -nat·ing, -nates. 1. To introduce into (an organic compound) one or more sulfonic acid groups. 2. To treat with sulfonic acid. — sul'fo·na'tion *n.*



the first hour of the day named after it. This system was brought into Hellenistic Egypt from Mesopotamia. In A.D. 321 the Emperor Constantine the Great grafted this astrological system onto the Roman calendar, made the first day of this new week a day of rest and worship for all, and imposed the following sequence and names to the days of the week: *Diēs Sōlis*, "Sun's Day"; *Diēs Lūnae*, "Moon's Day"; *Diēs Martis*, "Mars's Day"; *Diēs Mercurii*, "Mercury's Day"; *Diēs Iovis*, "Jove's Day" or "Jupiter's Day"; *Diēs Veneris*, "Venus's Day"; and *Diēs Saturni*, "Saturn's Day." This new Roman system was adopted with modifications throughout most of western Europe; in the Germanic languages, such as Old English, the names of four of the Roman gods were converted into those of the corresponding Germanic gods. Therefore in Old English we have the following names (with their Modern English developments): *Sunnandæg*, Sunday; *Mōnandæg*, Monday; *Tiwesdæg*, Tuesday (the god Tiu, like Mars, was a god of war); *Wōdnesdæg*, Wednesday (the god Woden, like Mercury, was quick and eloquent); *Thunresdæg*, Thursday (the god Thunor in Old English or Thor in Old Norse, like Jupiter, was lord of the sky; Old Norse *Þórsdæg* influenced the English form); *Frigedæg*, Friday (the goddess Frigg, like Venus, was the goddess of love); and *Sæternesdæg*, Saturday.

**wee** (wē) *adj.* **we•er, we•est.** 1. Very small; tiny. See Syns at small. 2. Very early: *the wee hours of the morning.* — *n.* Scots. A short time; a little bit. [ME *wēi, we*, a small amount, small < OE *wēge, wēg*, weight. See **wegh•\***.]



weeping willow  
*Salix babylonica*

**weed**<sup>1</sup> (wēd) *n.* 1.a. A plant considered undesirable, unattractive, or troublesome, esp. one growing where it is not wanted, as in a garden. **b.** Rank growth of such plants. 2. A water plant, esp. seaweed. 3. The leaves or stems of a plant as distinguished from the seeds: *dill weed.* 4. Something useless, detrimental, or worthless, esp. an animal unfit for breeding. 5. *Slang.* a. Tobacco. **b.** A cigarette. **c.** Marijuana. — *v.* **weed•ed, weed•ing, weeds.** — *tr.* 1. To clear of weeds. 2. To remove (weeds). Often used with *out*. 3. To eliminate as unsuitable or unwanted. Often used with *out*. — *intr.* To remove weeds. [ME < OE *wēod*, herb, grass, weed.]

**weed**<sup>2</sup> (wēd) *n.* 1. A token of mourning, as a black band worn on a man's hat or sleeve. 2. **weeds.** The black mourning clothes of a widow. 3. An article of clothing; a garment. Often used in the plural. [ME *wēde*, garment < OE *wēd.*]

**weed•er** (wē'də) *n.* One that removes weeds.

**weed•y** (wē'dē) *adj.* -*i•er, -i•est.* 1. Full of or consisting of weeds: *a weedy lawn.* 2. Resembling or characteristic of a weed: *a weedy plant.* 3. Of a scrawny build; spindly or gawky. — **weed'ly** *adv.* — **weed'ness** *n.*

**week** (wēk) *n.* 1.a. A period of seven days: *a week of rain.* **b. A seven-day calendar period, esp. one starting with Sunday and continuing through Saturday: *this week.* 2.a. A week designated by an event or a holiday occurring within it. **b. A week dedicated to a particular cause or institution. 3. The part of a calendar week devoted to work, school, or business: *working a three-day week.* 4.a. One week from a specified day: *I'll see you Friday week.* **b. One week ago from a specified day: *It was Friday week that we last met.* [ME *wēke* < OE *wicu*. See **wēk•2•\***.]******

**week•day** (wēk'dā) *n.* Any day of the week except Sunday, or often except Saturday and Sunday.

**week•end** (wēk'end) *n.* The end of the week, esp. the period from Friday evening through Sunday evening. — *intr. v.* **end•ed, end•ing, ends.** To spend weekends or a weekend.

**week•end•er** (wēk'endər) *n.* 1. One who vacations or visits on a weekend. 2. A small suitcase or bag for carrying clothing and toiletries for a weekend.

**week•long** (wēk'lɔŋg, -lɔŋg') *adj.* Continuing through the week: *a weeklong conference.*

**week•ly** (wēk'li) *adv.* 1. Once a week. 2. Every week. 3. By the week. — *adj.* 1. Of or relating to a week. 2. Occurring, appearing, or done once a week or every week. 3. Computed by the week. — *n., pl.* -*lies.* A weekly publication.

**week•night** (wēk'nīt) *n.* A night of the week exclusive of Saturday and Sunday.

**Weems** (wēms), **Mason Locke.** "Parson Weems." 1759–1825. Amer. cleric known for his fictionalized biography of George Washington (1800).

**ween** (wēn) *tr. v.* **weened, ween•ing, weens.** *Archaic.* To think; suppose. [ME *wēnen* < OE *wēnan*. See **wēn•1•\***.]

**ween•ie** (wē'nē) *n.* 1. *Informal.* A wiener. 2. *Slang.* A person, esp. a man, who is regarded as being weak and ineffectual. [Perh. blend of *wēn* and *tiny*.]

**wee•ny** (wē'ne) *adj.* -*ni•er, -ni•est.* *Informal.* Very small; tiny.

**weep** (wēp) *v.* **wept** (wēpt), **weep•ing, weeps.** — *tr.* 1. To shed (tears) as an expression of emotion. 2. To express grief or anguish for; lament. 3. To bring to a specified condition by weeping. 4. To exude or let fall (drops of liquid). — *intr.* 1. To express emotion, such as grief or sadness, by shedding tears. See Syns at cry. 2. To mourn or grieve. 3. To emit or run with drops of liquid. — *n.* A period or fit of weeping. Often used in the plural. [ME *wēpen* < OE *wēpan*.]

**weep•er** (wē'pə) *n.* 1. One that weeps. 2. A hired mourner. 3. A badge of mourning, such as a black veil. 4. A hole or

pipe in a wall to allow water to run off. 5. *Informal.* A highly sentimental artistic, cinematic, or dramatic work. **weep•le** (wē'pə) *n.* *Informal.* A work, esp. a film or play, that is excessively sentimental. **weep•ing** (wē'pɪŋ) *adj.* 1. Shedding tears; tearful. 2. Drooping rain. 3. Having slender drooping branches. **weeping willow** *n.* A widely cultivated deciduous tree (*Salix babylonica*) native to China and having long slender drooping branches and narrow leaves.

**weep•y** (wē'pē) *adj.* -*i•er, -i•est.* Weeping or inclined to weep. **Wee•vil** (wē'vil) *n.* Any of numerous beetles of the superfamily Curculionoidea, esp. the snout beetle, that have a downward-curving snout and are destructive to nuts, fruits, stems, and roots. [ME *wēvel* < OE *wifel*. See **wēbh•\***.]

**wēft** (wēft) *n.* 1.a. The horizontal threads interlaced through the warp in a woven fabric; woof. **b.** Yarn used for the weft. 2. Woven fabric. [ME < OE *wēfta*. See **wēbh•\***.]

**Wei** (wā). Name of several Chinese dynasties ruling from A.D. 220 to 265 and 386 to 556.

**wei•ge•la** (wī-gē'lə, -jē'l-, wī'jə-) *n.* Any of various deciduous shrubs of the genus *Weigela* of Asia, esp. *W. florida*, widely cultivated for its pink, white, or red flowers. [NLat., genus name, after C.E. *Weigel* (1748–1831), German physician.]

**welgh**<sup>1</sup> (wā) *v.* **welghed, welgh•ing, welghs.** — *tr.* 1. To determine the weight of by or as if by using a scale or balance. 2. To measure or apportion (a certain quantity) by or as if by weight. Often used with *out*. 3.a. To balance in the mind in order to make a choice; ponder or evaluate. **b.** To choose carefully or deliberately. 4. *Naut.* To raise (anchor). — *intr.* 1. To be of a specific weight. 2. To have consequence or importance. See Syns at count<sup>1</sup>. 3. To press heavily. Used with *on* or *upon*: *Guilt weighed on him.* 4. *Naut.* To raise anchor. — *phrasal verbs. weigh down.* 1. To cause to bend down with added weight. 2. To burden or oppress. **weigh in.** 1. *Sports.* To be weighed before or after an athletic contest. 2. To have one's baggage weighed, as at an airport. 3. *Slang.* To enter as a participant. [ME *wēien* < OE *wegan*. See **wēgh•\***.] — **weigh'er** *n.*

**weigh**<sup>2</sup> (wā) *n.* *Naut.* Way. Used in the phrase *under weigh*. [Var. of way influenced by **wēgh**(?).]

**weight** (wāt) *n.* 1. The relative heaviness of an object. 2. The force with which a body is attracted to Earth or another celestial body, equal to the product of the object's mass and the acceleration of gravity. 3.a. A unit measure of gravitational force: *a table of weights and measures.* **b.** A system of such measures: *avoirdupois weight.* 4. The measured heaviness of a specific object: *a two-pound weight.* 5. An object used principally to exert a force by virtue of its gravitational attraction to Earth, esp.: **a.** A metallic solid used as a standard of comparison in weighing. **b.** An object used to hold something else down. **c.** A counterbalance in a machine. **d. *Sports.* A heavy object, such as a dumbbell, lifted for exercise or in athletic competition. 6. *Statistics.* A factor assigned to a number in a computation, as in determining an average, to make the number's effect on the computation reflect its importance. 7. *Burden; oppressiveness.* 8. The greater part; preponderance. 9.a. *Influence, importance, or authority.* See Syns at *importance.* **b.** Ponderous quality. 10. *Sports.* A classification according to comparative lightness or heaviness. Often used in combination: *a heavyweight boxer.* 11. The heaviness or thickness of a fabric in relation to a particular season or use. Often used in combination: *a summerweight jacket.* — *tr. v.* **weight•ed, weight•ing, weights.** 1. To add to by or as if by attaching a weight; make heavy or heavier. 2. To load down, burden, or oppress. 3. To increase the weight or body of (fabrics) by treating with chemicals. 4. *Math. & Statistics.* To assign weights or a weight to. 5. To cause to have a slant or bias. 6. *Sports.* To assign to (a horse) the weight it must carry as a handicap in a race. — *idiom.* **by weight.** According to weight rather than volume or other measure. [ME *wīght* < OE *wīht*. See **wēgh•\***.]**

**weight•ed** (wā'tīd) *adj.* *Statistics.* Adjusted to reflect value or proportion: *a weighted average.*

**weight•less** (wāt'lis) *adj.* 1. Having little or no weight. 2. Not experiencing the effects of gravity; being in a state of free fall. — **weight'less•ly** *adv.* — **weight'lessness** *n.*

**weight lift•er** or **weight•lift•er** (wāt'lɪf'tər) *n.* *Sports.* One who engages in weightlifting.

**weight•lift•ing** (wāt'lɪf'tɪŋ) *n.* *Sports.* The lifting of weights in a prescribed manner.

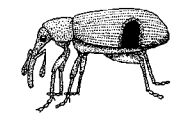
**weight•y** (wā'tē) *adj.* -*i•er, -i•est.* 1. Having considerable weight; heavy. 2. Burdensome; oppressive: *weighty problems.* 3. Of great consequence; momentous: *weighty matters before the delegates.* 4. Having great power or influence. 5. Solemn; serious. — **weight'ly** *adv.* — **weight'liness** *n.*

**Wei He** (wā' hē). A river of central China flowing c. 724 km (450 mi) to the Huang He (Yellow R.).

**Weil** (wā), **Simone.** 1909–43. French philosopher and mystic whose works include *Waiting for God*.

**Weill** (wīl, vil), **Kurt.** 1900–50. German-born composer who collaborated with Brecht on *The Threepenny Opera* (1928).

**Wei•mar** (wī'mār, vi'). A city of central Germany SW of



weevil  
Strawberry weevil  
*Anthrenus signatus*