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# Merriam- Webster's Collegiate® Dictionary

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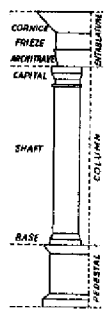
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nial composite herb (*Tussilago farfara*) with yellow flower heads appearing before the leaves  
**col-u-brid** \k'ol-yo-brad, 'k'ol-la-ŋ n [ultim. fr. L. *colubra* snake] (1887) : any of a large cosmopolitan family (Colubridae) of chiefly nonvenomous snakes — **colubrid** *adj*  
**col-u-brine** \-brin/ *adj* (ca. 1528) 1 : of, relating to, or resembling a snake 2 : of or relating to colubrids; COLUBRID  
**co-lu-go** \k'o-'lu-(j)gō/ n, pl -gos [perh. fr. a language of the Philippines] (ca. 1890) : FLYING LEMUR  
**col-um-bar-i-um** \k'ol-lam-'bar-ē-əm, -'ber-ŋ n, pl -ia \-ē-ə/ [L. lit., dovecoat, fr. *columba* dove] (1846) 1 : a structure of vaults lined with recesses for cinerary urns 2 : a recess in a columbarium  
**col-um-bia** \k'o-'lam-bē-ə/ n [NL, fr. Christopher Columbus] (1775) : the United States  
**Co-lum-bi-an** \-bē-ən/ *adj* (1757) : of or relating to the United States or to Christopher Columbus  
**col-um-bine** \k'ol-lam-'bin/ n [ME. fr. ML *columbina*, fr. L. fem. of *columbus* like a dove, fr. *columba* doves; akin to OHG *holuntar* elder tree, Gk *kolymbos* a small grebe, *kelainos* black] (14c) : any of a genus (*Aquilegia*) of plants of the buttercup family with irregular showy spurred flowers; as a : a red-flowered plant (*A. canadensis*) of eastern N. America b : a blue-flowered plant (*A. caerulea*) of the Rocky Mountains  
**Col-um-bine** \-bin, -'bēn/ n [fr. *Columbina*] : the saucy sweetheart of Harlequin in comedy and pantomime  
**col-um-bite** \k'o-'lām-'bit, 'k'ol-lām-ŋ n [NL, *columbium*] (1805) : a black mineral consisting mostly of iron and niobium  
**col-um-bi-um** \k'o-'lām-bē-əm/ n [NL, fr. *Columbia*] (1801) : NIOBIUM  
**Col-um-bus Day** \k'o-'lām-bas-ŋ/ n (1893) 1 : October 12 formerly observed as a legal holiday in many states of the U.S. in commemoration of the landing of Columbus in the Bahamas in 1492 2 : the second Monday in October observed as a legal holiday in many states of the U.S.  
**col-u-mel-la** \k'ol-yo-'me-lə/ n, pl -mel-lae \-'me-(j)lē, -jē/ [NL, fr. L. dim. of *columna*] (ca. 1755) 1 : the central column or axis of a spiral univalve shell 2 : the axis of the capsule in mosses and in some liverworts 3 a : the bony or partly cartilaginous rod connecting the tympanic membrane with the internal ear in birds and in many reptiles and amphibians b : the bony central axis of the cochlea 4 : the central sterile portion of the sporangium in various fungi (*Mucor* and related genera) — **col-u-mel-lar** \-'me-lər/ *adj*  
**col-umn** \k'ol-lām also 'k'ol-yəm/ n [ME *colunne*, fr. MF *colonna*, fr. L. *columna*, fr. *columen* top; akin to L. *collis* hill — more at HILL] (15c) 1 a : a vertical arrangement of items printed or written on a page b : one of two or more vertical sections of a printed page separated by a rule or blank space c : an accumulation arranged vertically; STACK d : one in a usu. regular series of newspaper or magazine articles (gossip ~) 2 : a supporting pillar; esp : one consisting of a usu. round shaft, a capital, and a base 3 a : something resembling a column in form, position, or function (a ~ of water) b : a tube or cylinder in which a chromatographic separation takes place 4 : a long row (as of soldiers) 5 : one of the vertical lines of elements of a determinant or matrix — **col-um-ned** \-lām-d, -yōmd/ *adj*  
**col-um-nar** \k'o-'lām-nər/ *adj* (1728) 1 : of, relating to, resembling, or characterized by columns 2 : of, relating to, being, or composed of tall narrow somewhat cylindrical or prismatic epithelial cells  
**col-um-ni-a-tion** \k'o-'lām-nē-'ā-shən/ n [prob. fr. *intercolumniation*] (1664) : the employment or the arrangement of columns in a structure  
**col-um-nist** \k'ol-lām-nist, -lə-mist also 'k'ol-yəm-nist, -yō-mist/ n (1920) : one who writes a newspaper or magazine column — **col-um-nis-tic** \k'ol-lām-nis-tik also 'k'ol-yəm-ŋ/ *adj*  
**col-za** \k'ol-'zə, 'k'ol-/ n [F, fr. D *koolzaad*, fr. MD *kooszet*, fr. *coole* cabbage + *saet* seed] (1712) 1 : any of several coles; esp : one (as rape) producing seed used as a source of oil 2 : RAPESEED  
**com-** or **col-** or **con-** *prefix* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L. with, together, thoroughly — more at CO-] : with ; together ; jointly — usu. *com-* before *b*, *p*, or *m* (*commingle*), *col-* before *l* (*colinear*), and *con-* before other sounds (*concentrate*)  
**co-ma** \k'o-'mə/ n [NL, fr. Gk *kōma* deep sleep] (1646) 1 : a state of profound unconsciousness caused by disease, injury, or poison 2 : a state of mental or physical sluggishness; TORPOR  
**co-ma** n, pl **co-mae** \-mə, -mē/ [L. hair, fr. Gk *kōmē*] (1669) 1 : a tufted bunch (as of branches, bracts, or seed hairs) 2 : the head of a comet usu. containing a nucleus 3 : an optical aberration in which the image of a point source is a comet-shaped blur — **co-mat-ic** \k'o-'mat-ik/ *adj*  
**Co-ma Her-e-ni-ces** \k'o-'mə-'ber-ə-'ni-(j)zē/ n [L. (gen. *Comae Berenices*), lit., Berenice's hair] : a constellation north of Virgo and between Bootes and Leo  
**co-mak-er** \k'ok-'mā-kər/ n (ca. 1934) : one that participates in an agreement; *specif* : one who stands to meet a financial obligation in the event of the maker's default  
**Co-man-che** \k'o-'man-čē/ n, pl **Comanche** or **Comanches** [AmerSp, fr. Southern Paiute *kimmanciq'i* Shoshones, strangers] (1806) 1 : a member of an American Indian people ranging from Wyoming and Nebraska south into New Mexico and northwestern Texas 2 : the Uto-Aztecan language of the Comanche people  
**co-mate** \k'ok-'māt, 'k'o-/ n (1576) : COMPANION  
**co-ma-tose** \k'o-'mə-'tōs, 'k'ā-/ *adj* [F *comateux*, fr. Gk *kōmat*, *kōma*] (1755) 1 : of, resembling, or affected with coma 2 : characterized by lethargic inertness; TORPID (a ~ economy)  
**comb** \k'ɔm/ n [ME, fr. OE *camb*; akin to OHG *kamb* comb, Gk *gomphe* tooth] (bef. 12c) 1 a : a toothed instrument used esp. for adjusting, cleaning, or confining hair b : a structure resembling such a comb; esp : any of several toothed devices used in handling or ordering textile fibers c : CURRYCOMB 2 a : a fleshy crest on the head of the domestic fowl and other gallinaceous birds b : something (as the



column 2

ridge of a roof) resembling the comb of a cock 3 : HONEYCOMB — **combed** \k'ɔmd/ *adj* — **comb-like** \k'ɔm-'lik/ *adj*  
**comb** w (14c) 1 : to draw a comb through for the purpose of arranging or cleaning 2 : to pass across by a scraping or raking action 3 a : to eliminate (as with a comb) by a thorough going-over b : to search or examine systematically 4 : to use in a combing action ~ w 1 of a wave or its crest : to roll over or break into foam 2 : to make a thorough search (<~ through the classified ads)  
**com-bat** \k'ām-'bat/ n (1546) 1 : a fight or contest between individuals or groups 2 : CONFLICT, CONTROVERSY 3 : active fighting in a war : ACTION (casualties suffered in ~)  
**com-bat** \k'ām-'bat, 'k'ām-/ v **-bat-ed** or **-bat-ted**; **-bat-ing** or **-bat-ting** [MF *combattre*, fr. (assumed) VL *combattere*, fr. L. *com-* + *bat-tare* to beat] w (1564) : to engage in combat; FIGHT ~ w 1 : to fight with; ~ BATTLE 2 : to struggle against; esp : to strive to reduce or eliminate (<~ pollution) *syn* see OPPOSE  
**com-bat** \k'ām-'bat/ *adj* (1823) 1 : relating to combat (<~ missions) 2 : designed or destined for combat (<~ boots) (<~ troops)  
**com-bat-ant** \k'ām-'ba-'tnt also 'k'ām-ba-'tnt/ n (15c) : one that is engaged in or ready to engage in combat — **combatant** *adj*  
**combat fatigue** n (1943) : a traumatic psychoneurotic reaction or an acute psychotic reaction occurring under conditions (as wartime combat) that cause intense stress — called also *battle fatigue*  
**com-bat-ive** \k'ām-'ba-'tiv/ *adj* (ca. 1834) : marked by eagerness to fight or contend — **com-bat-ive-ly** *adv* — **com-bat-ive-ness** n  
**combe** \k'ūm, 'kōm/ n [ME *cumbe*, *cumbe*, fr. OE *cumb*, of Celt origin; akin to W *cwm* valley] (bef. 12c) 1 Brit : a deep narrow valley 2 Brit : a valley or basin on the flank of a hill  
**com-ber** \k'o-'mər/ n (ca. 1682) 1 : one that combs 2 : a long curling wave of the sea  
**com-bi-na-tion** \k'ām-bə-'nā-shən/ n, often *attrib* (14c) 1 a : a result or product of combining; esp : an alliance of individuals, corporations, or states united to achieve a social, political, or economic end b : two or more persons working as a team 2 : an ordered sequence as a : a sequence of letters or numbers chosen in setting a lock; also : the mechanism operating or moved by the sequence b : a rapid sequence of punches in boxing c : any subset of a set considered without regard to order within the subset 3 : any of various one-piece undergarments for the upper and lower parts of the body — usu. used in pl. 4 : an instrument designed to perform two or more tasks 5 a : the act or process of combining; esp : that of uniting to form a chemical compound b : the quality or state of being combined — **com-bi-na-tion-al** \-shənəl, -shə-'nəl/ *adj*  
**combination shot** n (ca. 1909) : a shot in pool in which a ball is pocketed by an object ball  
**com-bi-na-tive** \k'ām-bə-'nā-tiv, k'ām-'bi-nā-/ *adj* (1855) 1 : tending or able to combine 2 : resulting from combination  
**com-bi-na-to-ri-al** \k'ām-bə-nə-'tōr-ē-əl, k'ām-'bi-nə-, -(j)bi-, -'tōr-/ *adj* (1818) 1 : of, relating to, or involving combinations 2 : of or relating to the arrangement of, operation on, and selection of discrete mathematical elements belonging to finite sets or making up geometric configurations — **com-bi-na-to-ri-ally** \-ē-ə-lē/ *adv*  
**com-bi-na-to-ri-ics** \-tōr-'iks, -'tār-/ n *pl* *but sing in constr* (1951) : combinatorial mathematics  
**com-bi-na-tory** \k'ām-'bi-nə-'tōr-ē-, -'tōr-/ *adj* (1647) : COMBINATIVE  
**com-bine** \k'əm-'bin/ v **com-bined**; **com-bin-ing** [ME, fr. MF *combiner*, fr. LL *combinare*, fr. L. *com-* + *bin* two by two — more at BIN] w (15c) 1 a : to bring into such close relationship as to obscure individual characters; MERGE b : to cause to unite into a chemical compound c : to unite into a single number or expression (<~ fractions and simplify) 2 : INTERMIX, BLEND 3 : to possess in combination ~ vi 1 a : to become one b : to unite to form a chemical compound 2 : to act together *syn* see JOIN — **com-bin-able** \-'bi-nə-bəl/ *adj* — **com-bin-er** n  
**com-bine** \k'ām-'bin/ n (1886) 1 : a combination esp. of business or political interests 2 : a harvesting machine that heads, threshes, and cleans grain while moving over a field  
**com-bine** \k'ām-'bin/ v **com-bined**; **com-bin-ing** w (1926) : to harvest with a combine ~ vi : to combine a crop  
**com-bing** \k'o-'mɪŋ/ *var* of COAMING  
**comb-ings** \k'o-'mɪŋz/ n *pl* (1656) : loose hair removed by a comb  
**combing wool** n (1757) : long-staple strong-fibered wool found suitable for combing and used esp. in the manufacture of worsteds  
**combin-ing form** n (1834) : a linguistic form that occurs only in compounds or derivatives and can be distinguished descriptively from an affix by its ability to occur as one immediate constituent of a form whose only other immediate constituent is an affix (as *cephal-* in *cephalic*) or by its being an allomorph of a morpheme having another allomorph that may occur alone or can be distinguished historically from an affix by the fact that it is borrowed from another language in which it is descriptively a word or a combining form  
**comb jelly** n (ca. 1889) : CTENOPHORE  
**com-bo** \k'ām-(j)bo/ n, pl **combos** [combination + -o] (1924) 1 : a usu. small jazz or dance band 2 : COMBINATION  
**com-bust** \k'ām-'bɔst/ v [L. *combustus*, pp. of *comburare* to burn up, irreg. fr. *com-* + *urere* to burn — more at EMBER] (15c) : BURN  
**com-bus-ti-bile** \k'ām-'bɔs-tə-bəl/ *adj* (1529) 1 : capable of combustion 2 : easily excited — **com-bus-ti-bil-i-ty** \-bɔs-tə-'bi-lə-tē/ n — **combustible** n — **com-bus-ti-ble** \-bɔs-tə-'bi-lē/ *adv*  
**com-bus-tion** \k'ām-'bɔs-čən/ n (15c) 1 : an act or instance of burning 2 : a usu. rapid chemical process (as oxidation) that produces heat and usu. light; also : a slower oxidation (as in the body) 3 : violent agitation; TUMULT — **com-bus-tive** \-'bɔs-tiv/ *adj*  
**com-bus-tor** \-'bɔs-tər/ n (1945) : a chamber (as in a gas turbine or a jet engine) in which combustion occurs — called also *combustion chamber*  
**come** \k'ɔm/ v **came** \k'ām/; **come**; **com-ing** \k'o-'mɪŋ/ [ME, fr. OE *cuman*; akin to OHG *queman* to come, L. *venire*, Gk *baltein* to walk, go] vi (bef. 12c) 1 a : to move toward something; APPROACH (<~ here) b : to move or journey to a vicinity with a specified purpose (<~ see us) (<~ and see what's going on) c (1) : to reach a particular station in a series (now we ~ to the section on health) (2) : to arrive in due course (the time has ~) d (1) : to approach in kind or quality (<~ see near perfection) (2) : to reach a condition or conclusion

scalare \s'ka-lar-ē, -lär-ə \ [NL, specific epithet, fr. L, neut. of scalaris; fr. the barred pattern on its body] (1928): a black and silver laterally compressed So. American cichlid fish (Pterophyllum scalare) popular in aquariums
scalariform \s'ka-lar-ə, -fōrm\ adj [NL scalariformis, fr. L scalaris + -formis -form] (1836): resembling a ladder esp. in having transverse bars or markings like the rungs of a ladder (~ cells in plants) — scalariformly adv
scalar product n (1878): a real number that is the product of the lengths of two vectors and the cosine of the angle between them — called also dot product, inner product
scal-a-wag \s'ka-li-wag\ n [origin unknown] (ca. 1848) 1: SCAMP, REPROBATE 2: a white Southerner acting in support of the reconstruction governments after the American Civil War often for private gain
scald \s'kōld\ vb [ME, fr. ONF escalder, fr. LL excaldere to wash in warm water, fr. L ex- + calida, calida warm water, fr. fem. of calidus warm, fr. calere to be warm — more at LEE] vt (13c) 1: to burn with or as if with hot liquid or steam 2 a: to subject to the action of boiling water or steam b: to bring to a temperature just below the boiling point (~ milk) 3: SCORCH ~ vi 1: to scald something 2: to become scalded
scald n (1601) 1: an injury to the body caused by scalding 2: an act or process of scalding 3: any of various conditions or diseases of plants or fruits marked esp. by a usu. brownish discoloration of tissue
scald adj [scald + -ed] (1561) 1 archaic: SCABBY, SCURFY 2 archaic: SHABBY, CONTEMPTIBLE
scald \s'kōld, 'skōld\ var of SKALD
scald \s'kōld, 'skōld\ adj [alter. of scalded] (1791): subjected to scalding (coffee... with ~ cream — Charles Kingsley)
scalding \s'kōld-ɪŋ\ adj (13c) 1: hot enough to scald (~ water) 2 a: having or producing the feeling of being burned (~ sun) (~ sand) b: SCATHING (~ criticism)
scale \s'kāl\ n [ME, bowl, scale of a balance, fr. ON skāl; akin to ON skel shell — more at SHELL] (14c) 1 a: either pan or tray of a balance b: a beam that is supported freely in the center and has two pans of equal weight suspended from its ends — usu. used in pl. 2: an instrument or machine for weighing
scale vb scaled; scaling vi (1603): to weigh in scales ~ vi: to have a specified weight on scales
scale n [ME, fr. MF escale, of Gmc origin; akin to OE scealu shell, husk — more at SHELL] (14c) 1 a: a small, flattened, rigid, and definitely circumscribed plate forming part of the external body covering esp. of a fish b: a small thin plate suggesting a fish scale (~s of mica) (the ~s on a moth's wing) c: the scaly covering of a scaled animal 2: a small thin dry lamina shed (as in many skin diseases) from the skin 3: a thin coating, layer, or incrustation: a: a usu. black scaly coating of oxide forming on the surface of a metal (as iron) when it is heated for processing b: a hard incrustation usu. rich in sulfate of calcium that is deposited on the inside of a vessel (as a boiler) in which water is heated 4 a: a modified leaf protecting a seed plant bud before expansion b: a thin, membranous, chaffy, or woody bract 5 a: any of the small overlapping usu. metal pieces forming the outer surface of scale armor b: SCALE ARMOR 6 a: SCALE INSECT b: infestation with or disease caused by scale insects — scaled \s'kāl(d)\ adj — scale-less \s'kāl(-l)əs\ adj
scale vb scaled; scaling vi (15c) 1: to remove the scale or scales from (as by scraping) (~ a fish) 2: to take off in thin layers or scales 3: to form scale on (hard water ~s a boiler) 4: to throw (as a thin flat stone) so that the edge cuts the air or so that it skips on water; SKIM ~ vi 1: to separate and come off in scales; FLAKE 2: to shed scales (scaling skin) 3: to become encrusted with scale
scale vb scaled; scaling [ME, fr. scale] vi (14c) 1 a: to attack with or take by means of scaling ladders (~ a castle wall) b: to climb up or reach by means of a ladder c: to reach the highest point of SURMOUNT 2 a: to arrange in a graduated series (~ a test) b (1) to measure by or as if by a scale (2) to measure or estimate the sound content of (as logs) c: to pattern, make, regulate, set, or estimate according to some rate or standard: ADJUST (a production schedule scaled to actual need) — often used with down or up (~ down linports) ~ vi 1: to climb by or as if by a ladder 2: to rise in a graduated series 3: MEASURE
scale n [ME, fr. LL scala ladder, staircase, fr. L scalae, pl., stairs, rungs, ladder; akin to L scandere to climb — more at SCAN] (15c) 1 a: LADDER b archaic: a means of ascent 2: a graduated series of musical tones ascending or descending in order of pitch according to a specified scheme of their intervals 3: something graduated esp. when used as a measure or rule: a: a series of marks or points at known intervals used to measure distances (as the height of the mercury in a thermometer) b: an indication of the relationship between the distances on a map and the corresponding actual distances c: RULER 3 4 a: a graduated series or scheme of rank or order (a ~ of taxation) b: MINIMUM WAGE 2 5 a: a proportion between two sets of dimensions (as between those of a drawing and its original) b: a distinctive relative size, extent, or degree (projects done on a large ~) 6: a graded series of tests or of performances used in rating individual intelligence or achievement — scale adj — to scale: according to the proportions of an established scale of measurement (floor plans drawn to scale)
scale n [scale] (ca. 1587) 1 obs: ESCALADE 2: an estimate of the amount of sound lumber in logs or standing timber
scale armor n (1842): armor of small metallic scales on leather or cloth
scale-down \s'kāl(-d)əu\ n (1931): a reduction according to a fixed ratio (a ~ of debts)
scale insect n (1840): any of numerous small but very prolific homopterous insects (superfamily Coccoidea) that have winged males, wingless scale-covered females attached to the host plant, and young that suck the juices of plants and some of which are economic pests — compare LAC
scale-like \s'kāl(-l)ik\ adj (1883): resembling a scale (~ design); specif: reduced to a minute appressed element resembling a scale
scale-tone \s'kāl-tōn, -skā-ŋ\ adj [LL scalenus, fr. Gk skalenos, lit., uneven; perh. akin to Gk skolios crooked, skelos leg — more at ISOSCELES]

(1734) of a triangle: having the three sides of unequal length — see TRIANGLE illustration
scaler \s'kāl-ər\ n (1568) 1: one that scales 2: a dental instrument for removing tartar from teeth 3: an electronic device that operates a recorder or produces an output pulse after a specified number of input impulses
scale-up \s'kāl-ŋp\ n (1945): an increase according to a fixed ratio
scal \s'kōl\ n [ME, fr. ON skalli bald head; akin to Sw skulle skull] (14c) 1: a scurf or scabby disorder (as of the scalp)
scal-lion \s'kāl-yōn\ n [ME scaloun, fr. AF scalun, fr. (assumed) VL escalonia, fr. L ascalonia (caepa) onion of Ascalon, fr. fem. of ascalonius of Ascalon; fr. Ascalon, Ascalo Ascalon, scaport in southern Palestine] (14c) 1: SHALLOT 2: LEHK 3: an onion forming a thick basal position without a bulb; also: GREEN ONION
scal-lop \s'kāl-ŋp\ n [ME scalop, fr. MF escalope shell, of Gmc origin; akin to MD schelpe shell] (15c) 1 a: any of numerous marine bivalve lamellibranch mollusks (family Pectinidae) that have a radially ribbed shell with the edge undulated and that swim by opening and closing the valves b: the adductor muscle of a scallop as an article of food 2 a: a valve or shell of a scallop b: a baking dish shaped like a valve of a scallop 3: one of a continuous series of circle segments or angular projections forming a border 4: PATTYPAN 5 [F escalope, prob. fr. MF, shell]: a thin slice of boneless meat (as veal)
scallop vt (1737) 1 [fr. the use of a scallop shell as a baking dish]: to bake in a sauce usu. covered with seasoned bread or cracker crumbs (~ed potatoes) 2 a: to shape, cut, or finish in scallops b: to form scallops in ~ vi: to gather or dredge scallops
scallop-er \-lə-pər\ n (ca. 1881) 1: a person who dredges for or gathers scallops 2: a boat equipped and used to dredge for scallops
scal-lo-pi-ni or sca-lop-pi-ne \s'kāl-lə-'pē-nē, -skā-\ n [It scalloppine, ultm. fr. F escalope thin slice of meat, prob. fr. MF, shell] (1946): thin slices of meat (as veal) sautéed or coated with flour and fried
scal-a-wag var of SCALAWAG
sca-lo-gram \s'ka-lə-'grām\ n [scale + -o- + -gram] (1944): an arrangement of items (as problems on a test or features of speech) in ascending order so that the presence or accomplishment of an item at one level implies the presence of or the capability to accomplish items at all lower levels
scalp \s'kɒlp\ n [ME, of Scand origin; akin to ON skálp sheath; akin to MD schelpe shell] (14c) 1 a: the part of the integument of the human head usu. covered with hair in both sexes b: the part of an animal (as a wolf or fox) corresponding to the human scalp 2 a: a part of the human scalp with attached hair cut or torn from an enemy as a token of victory (as by Indian warriors of No. America) b: a trophy of victory or accomplishment 3 chiefly Scot: a projecting mass of bare ground or rock
scalp vt (1676) 1 a: to deprive of the scalp b: to remove an upper part from 2: to remove a desired constituent from and discard the rest 3: to buy and sell so as to make small quick profits (~ stocks) (~ grain); esp: to resell at greatly increased prices (~ theater tickets) ~ vi 1: to take scalps 2: to profit by slight market fluctuations — scalp-er n
scal-pel \s'kal-pəl also skat-'pəl\ n [L scalpellus, scalpellum, dim. of scalper, scalprum chisel, knife, fr. scalpere to scratch, carve] (1742): a small straight thin-bladed knife used in surgery
scalp lock n (1826): a long tuft of hair on the crown of the otherwise shaved head esp. of a warrior of some American Indian tribes
scaly \s'kāl-ē\ adj scal-ier; -est (14c) 1 a: covered with, composed of, or rich in scale or scales b: FLAKY 2: a: of or relating to scaly animals 3: DESPICABLE POOR 4: infested with scale insects (~ fruit) — scaly-ness n
scaly ant-eater n (1840): PANGOLIN
scam \s'kam\ n [origin unknown] (1963): a fraudulent or deceptive act or operation (an insurance ~)
scam-mo-ny \s'ka-mə-nē\ n, pl -nies [ME scamonie, fr. OE scammonia, fr. L scammonia, fr. Gk skammōnia] (bef. 12c) 1: a twisting convolvulus (Convolvulus scammonia) of Asia Minor with a large thick root 2 a: the dried root of scammony b: a cathartic resin obtained from scammony
scamp \s'kamp\ n [obs. scamp to roam about idly] (1808) 1: RASCAL, ROGUE 2: an impish or playful young person — scamp-ish \s'kamp-ɪʃ\ adj
scamp vt [origin unknown] (1837): to perform or deal with in a hasty, neglectful, or imperfect manner
scam-per \s'kam-pər\ vi scam-pered; scam-per-ing -p(-ɪŋ)\ [prob. fr. obs. D schampen to flee, fr. MF escamper, fr. It scamper, fr. (assumed) VL excampare to decamp, fr. L ex- + campus field] (1691): to run nimbly and usu. playfully about
scamper n (1697): a playful or hurried run or movement
scam-pl \s'kam-pē, 'skām-\ n, pl scampl [It, pl. of scampo, a European lobster] (1925): SHRIMP; esp: large shrimp prepared with a garlic flavored sauce
scan \s'kan\ vb scanned; scan-ning [ME scannen, fr. LL scandere, fr. L, to climb; akin to Mir scennid he springs, Skt skandati he leaps] vt (14c) 1: to read or mark so as to show metrical structure 2: to examine by point-by-point observation or checking: a: to investigate thoroughly by checking point by point and often repeatedly (a fire lookout scanning the hills with binoculars) b: to glance from point to point of often hastily, casually, or in search of a particular item (~ the want ads looking for a job) 3 a: to examine esp. systematically with a sensing device (as a photometer or a beam of radiation) usu. to obtain information b: to pass an electron beam over and convert (an image) into variations of electrical properties (as voltage) that convey information electronically c: to pass over in the formation of an image (the electron beam ~s the picture tube) ~ vi 1: to scan verse 2: to conform to a metrical pattern SYN see SCRUTINIZE — scan-na-ble \s'ka-nə-bəl\ adj
\ə\ but \ʌ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ə\ ace \ə\ mop, mar \ə\ out \ə\ chin \ə\ bet \ə\ easy \ə\ go \ə\ hit \ə\ ice \ə\ job \ə\ sing \ə\ go \ə\ law \ə\ boy \ə\ thin \ə\ the \ə\ too \ə\ foot \ə\ yet \ə\ vision \ə, ɛ, ɪ, ɔ, ɛ, ɛ, ɛ, ɛ, \ə\ see Guide to Pronunciation

