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# Errors Spell Checkers Do Not Correct and Style Sheet: 5 Years Later

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#### **Abstract**

This updated listing of words that are often confused by spell checkers is the most downloaded article among my works and those at my university. After 5 years, it has been frequently revised and added to with more than a thousand new words.

Spell checkers in writing programs and communication devices may change a written word to an unintended one and may provide auto completion as well. The writer or reader may note that a piece of work may be free from red (misspelling) or green (grammar/syntax error) underlining, but the wording may not be as intended. Likewise, the reverse may be true with the program flagging correctly written text. While dictionaries and lists of spelling demons, homonyms, and homophones exist, the following are a culling of words that spell checkers and auto completion programs may confuse. Each word is associated with a relevant related word to resolve ambiguity with eye toward both noun and verb usage, and unlike a dictionary is better regarded as a thesaurus. While yielding to the more common word, the pairings are usually alphabetically ordered by the word's sound then by nouns then verbs. Because some spell checkers allow multiple generally acceptable spellings, the preferred spelling is presented herein. While casual misusage is understandable, many of the listings herein have been observed as errors in student work, colleague communications, and in the media. Generally not included are vulgar words as well as abbreviations including those used in chemistry, physics, commerce, and foreign exchange. American spellings are used herein which include endings of: -am, -ense, -ize, -or, and -ter instead of British endings of: -amme, -ence, -ise, -our, and -tre. Generally, a single consonant after a vowel or a terminal silent e makes the single vowel prior to the consonant long in pronunciation, and it is "i before e except after c or before g." Some proper and trade names and *foreign* words are shown if they are the same.

Generally adjectives ending in -ic are denotative (what it is), internally defined, or characteristic while words ending in -ical are connotative (what it is about), externally defined, or exceptional; nouns may end with -ic or ics, adverbs with -icly or -ically. Consider: cleric -al, comic -al, cubic -al, economic -al, electric -al, ethic -al, heretic -al, historic -al, magic -al, mathematic -al, mystic -al, philosophic -al, psychoanalytic -al, rhetoric -al, statistic -al, theatric -al, topic -al, tropic -al, etc., where "the historical theatric presentation" is a drama set in the past, but "the historic theatrical presentation" is a noteworthy florid oration. On the other hand, there are those that do not easily receive such treatment, e.g. acrobatic, artistic, athletic, caustic, democratic, dramatic, eclectic, ethnic, fantastic, ironic, magnetic, majestic, monotonic, pubic, political (politic is either proper or a verb), realistic, sardonic, sarcastic, sonic, and toxic; there are also those which can be used as nouns: academic, cleric, comic, epidemic, esthetic, heretic, medic, mystic, psychic, psychotic, public, radical, relic, statistic, and topic. Commonly mispronounced words include: accreditation ac-cre-di-ta-tion, amateur a-ma-teur, banal ba-nal, denunciation de-nun-ci-a-tion, epitome e-pi-to-me, etcetera et-ce-ter-a, harass har-ass, homogeneous ho-mo-gene-ous, hyperbole hy-per-bo-le, integral in-te-gral, intelligentsia in-tel-li-Gen-tsi-a, interest in-te-rest, kiln kil(n), lackadaisical lac-ka-dai-si-cal, machinations ma-Ki-na-tions, medieval me-di-e-val, mischievous mis-chie-vous, naïveté na-ïv(e)-té, nuclear nuc-le-ar, pronunciation pro-nun-ci-a-tion, regardless re-gard-less, renaissance renais-sance, unionized un-i-o-nized [chemistry] or u-nion-ized [work], and zoology zo-o-lo-gy. There is a difference between as and like. Use as when followed by action (another verb or function); use like -s as a verb denoting a preference or otherwise for comparisons. The comparative usage is never followed by another verb (save gerund nouns—"There are things that always makes me happy, like walking the dog" versus "...as when I walk the dog.").

Thereafter follows a style sheet noting that different versions exist among various fields and publications. It is offered here in recognition that writing programs often do little to correct notational styles.

```
a - [ind. article]/the [Port.]/to [Fr./Sp.],
                                               an – [ind. article]\rightarrow[vowel]
                                       object - contrary/thing
abject – severe
abode – residence
                                       bode - expect
aboriginal - native
                                       original - unique
abroad - foreign
                                       a broad - wide, a woman
abrogation – annulment
                                       approbation - approval
absent - not here
                                       absinthe - liquor
                                       abstention - avoid
absentia – not present
absolve - blameless
                                       absolute - completely
abstract/-ion – not tangible
                                       obstruct/-ion - block
accept - approve
                                       except - exclude, excerpt - portion
accent - foreign dialect/add
                                       ascent - rise, assent - agreement
access - entrance
                                       excess - extra
accrue/-d - gain
                                       ecru - yellow brown, a crew - team, crude -raw
accuse - blame
                                       excuse - absolve
acquire - obtain
                                       choir - chorus, quire - paper
action - movement
                                       auction - bid sale
acts - performs
                                       ax(e)/-es - lumber tool/-s
acute - sharp
                                       cute - adorable
ad/-s - marketing,
                                       add/-s - increase, aids - helps/disease, adz - ax
addict - dependent
                                       attic - roof
addiction - dependence
                                       addition - increase
admiral - navy officer
                                       admirable - worthy
adverse - unfavorable
                                       averse - opposed
advice - suggestion [noun]
                                       advise - suggest [verb]
affect - change[verb/noun psychology]
                                               effect - outcome[noun]/+cause [verb]
                                       infinity - all, infinitely - unbounded
affinity - association
afraid - scared
                                       frayed - frazzled
aid/-e - help/-er
                                       -ade - juice drink suffix
ail – ill
                                       ale - drink
ain't – is not [incorrect]
                                       isn't – is not [correct]
air/-ed - gas/exposed,
                               arid - dry, err/-ed - mistake/-n, +heir - inheritance, ear - listen, +
                               er – he [German]
                                       aerial - antenna, eerie - strange, Erie - lake
airy – light
aisle – passage
                                       I'll - I will, ill - sick
align – straighten
                                       a line – straight segment
                                       awl - tool, owl - bird, y'all - you all, al - to the [Spanish]
all - entire,
alliterative/-on - same first sound
                                       iterative/-on – step by step
                                       a lot – plenty [not alot]
allot - allocate
                                       elude – avoid
allude - refer
allusion – reference
                                       illusion - unreal
                                       alley - small street, alloy - metals
ally - friend
allowed – permitted
                                       aloud - vocalize
aloft – airborne
                                       aloof - avoid, loft - warehouse apartment
already - recently
                                       all right - perfect [not alright]
altar – pedestal
                                       alter – change
alumnus - male graduate,
                                       alumna – female graduate, alumni –graduates
amateur – devotee
                                       armature – spindle
amaze - astound
                                       amass - acquire, maze - labyrinth, maize - corn
                                       amulet - charm [noun], emulate - surpass/copy
ameliorate - improve,
anachronism - outdated
                                       aphorism - slogan
```

anal -rectum, annals -history, anneal -temper, analysis -understanding analog - modulation analogue - analogy anathema – hated object asthma - difficult breathing anatomic - body atomic - atom anchor - steadied anger – infuriate ant - insect, aunt - parent's sister and - plus anecdote - story antidote – poison remedy anima - soul enema - colon cleansing, enemy - opponent annoys - bothers noise - sound anonymous - unknown unanimous - all annus - year (Latin), onus - blame anus - rectum aunt – parent's sister ant – insect antique/-s - old antic/-s - behavior aviary - bird cage apiary - beehive applicable – relevant appliqué - covering appreciate - positive deprecate - insult, depreciate - decrease apogee – farthest apology - sorry probation - trial, appropriation - funding approbation - approval arcane - complex archaic - old are - be area – space aria - music, arrears - past due, array - matrix arise/arose - stand/stood [reflexive] arrive/-s - become/-s Art/-hur - male name art – esthetic artisan – stylish artesian - pressured well artistic - stylish design autistic – impairment as - per/the [plural Port.], ass/-es - donkey/butt/-s, asset/-s - value, assess - measure ascends - climbs [verb] ascents – climbs [noun] ascetic - poor esthetic – art ask - question ax(e) - tool aspire - hope expire - end assault - attack salt – seasoning ascent - rise assent - agreement, accent - dialect/add assay - analyze essay – writing, say – speak ensure - to be sure, insure - buy insurance assure - remove doubt, astringent - chemical stringent – strict assuage - relieve usage - utilization austere – sparse Austria/Australia – nation [Europe/Pacific] ate – eat [past] eight - 8attach/-ed - fasten/-ed attaché - diplomat attain – achieve obtain - get attend/-ed – be present intend/-ed - desire/-ed auger - foretell augur - drill, A-/august - month/name/highly aural - hearing oral - verbal aviator – air pilot avatar - symbol avocation - hobby vocation - career

awful - astound oval - round, offal - rubbish

awed - wowed odd – not even

awry – unplanned rye – grain, wry – thin/joke

axes - lumber tools axis - hub

ave – affirmative I - me/1, eye – vision

babble - noise, bobble - trinket, bubble -gas, Babel -tower, Bible -book

back - rear bake - cook

bid -offer, bade -desire, bud/-dy -young growth/friend bad -not good,

brake - stop

bread - food

breach/-s - breakthrough

beg - plead, big - large, bog - swamp, bug - insect bag - sack beagle – dog, bugle – trumpet bagel - bread bail - payment/scoop bale - package, bill - due bait -lure, bat -animal/hit, bet -wager, bit/-e -portion/[past]-/chew ball/-ed - sphere/dance/gathered bawl/-ed - cry/-ied, bald - hairless band - group/fastener banned – prohibited banister – railing barrister - lawver bar - rail bare - naked, bear - animal/carry, beer - drink bard - writer bared - revealed, barred - prohibited, bird - animal barely - scarcely barley - grain barrel – container/speed beryl - mineral, burl - wood baron - royalty barren - fallow barrier - impediment, derriere – buttocks, farrier – blacksmith, furrier – fur maker, + te-/harrier - dog, merrier - happier Basque - European region bask - sun bathe (a)bate – lessen bait - prey attraction bitch - female, botch - error, butch - male batch – portion bath/-e - immerse booth - enclosure bazaar - sales bizarre - strange bee - insect/B, Bea/-trice - female name be - to exist bin - box, been - be [past], Ben/-jamin - male name bean - seed best - win/better [superlative] beast – wild animal, breast – chest, beet - vegetable, bet - wager beat - drum/conquer beatify – sanctify beautify - pretty bow - arrow launcher, boo/-boo - scare/error beau - beauty beauty – pretty thing booty - treasure/butt beer - beverage bier – corpse carrier believe – presume Bolivia - county berth - place birth - born biretta – cleric hat Berretta - gun bladder - body organ blather - talk, blotter - dryer blade - grass/knife belayed - cancelled, bayed - howled blur/-ry - smudge, blear/-y - unfocused blare – trumpet blu/blue - [French/Italian]/color blew - blow [past] **blotch** – **disfigurement** botch - fail. butch - male boar/-s/-d - pig/-s/panel, bore/-s/-d - drill/-s/-ed/fatigue/-s/-d, bourse - market, burr/-s - rough edge/-s boarder - renter border - boundary bought -purchased, boot -shoe/load, '-/bout-about/contest boat -ship, B-/bob - male name/floating bib - baby napkin, imbibe - drink bawdy – risqué body – main portion bon mot – good word bone moat - skeleton ditch, bonbon - candy booger - discharge burger - food/citizen boos – jeers booze – liquor booths - stands [noun] booze – liquor borne – bear [past], bourn – brook born - birth borrow - debt burrow - hole, (wheel-)barrow - carrier, borough - district, + burro - donkey, bureau - office bough - branch bow - bend bowel - entrails bowl - container boy - male child buoy - floater

break – pause/fail

breech/-s pants

breed/bred - mate/-ed

```
brew/-s/-ed - prepare/-s drinks/[past]
                                              bruise - wound, brood - offspring/ponder
broach - commence discussion
                                      brooch - ornament jewelry
brows - view cover
                                      browse – peruse
buds - young plants
                                      buzz – bee sound/cut
bullion - gold
                                      bouillon – soup broth
bumbershoot – umbrella [erroneously British]
                                                      brolly - umbrella [Brit]
                                      butt - end, butte - promontory, bud - young plant
but - however
bury - deeply cover
                                      Barry - male name
buy - purchase
                                      by - method, bye - so long, bi - both
                                      caper - adventure, kipper - herring
caber - pole [Scottish]
cable - flexible connection,
                                      cabal - secret group, Kabul - city, cobble - hinder
                                      cachet - distinction, cash/-ed -money/redeem
cache/-d - hide/hidden,
cactus – plant [singular]
                                      cacti – plants [plural]
cadence – tempo
                                      credence - believable
cadenza – musical piece
                                      credenza - cupboard
café – restaurant
                                      coffee - drink
                                      cock - bird/set, kick - foot propel, kook - strange
cake – dessert
calendar - davs list
                                      colander - food sieve, coriander - spice
calf - cow
                                      cough - sputter, cuff - sleeve end
                                      kale – plant, cool – slightly cold, cull – separate
call – speak out
                                      cavalier -callous, cavalry -mounted army, Calvary -church
calorie -heat,
                                      canyon/cañon – ravine/[Spanish]
canon - artillery
canapé – appetizer
                                      canopy – deck cover
cant - slope/phrase
                                      can't - cannot
canter - stroll
                                      cantor - singer, candor - truth
                                      cape – jetty/coat
cap – cover
capable – able
                                      culpable - blame
                                      capitol - government building
capital – head city/funds
car - vehicle
                                      care – concern
carat – gem weight
                                      carrot - vegetable, carob - seed
carnal - sexual
                                      carnival – public celebration
                                      caries - tooth decay
carry - transport
carrier - vehicle
                                      currier - messenger
cart - carry
                                      court - square/law/pursue, curt - short
                                      cartoon – panel
carton – package
case - container/secretly examine, cash/-ed - money/redeemed, cachet - distinguished, cached - hidden
                                      Kashmir - region
cashmere – wool
cast - mold
                                      caste - order
cat - animal
                               caught - catch [past[, cot - bed, coat - cover, +
                               cut – separate, kit – pack [noun]
                                      kitsch - banal art
catch - seize
cause/-d - implement/-ed
                                      cost – value, 'cause – because
cease/-d - stop/-ped
                               size/-d - measure/-d, seize/-d - grab/-bed, cyst - bump, seas - oceans, +
                               sees – see [3<sup>rd</sup> per.]
                                      seed/-y - germ/decrepit
cede – give up
ceiling - room top
                                      sealing - closure
celebrate/-ory - party
                                      celibate/-ory - unmarried
cell/-ar - enclosure
                                      sell/-er - vend/-er, seal - animal/to close
cement - glue
                                      cemetery - graveyard, seminary - retreat
                                      cinder - ash. sinter - meld. sinister - evil
center - middle
centrifugal -outward force,
                                      centripetal-inward force, centipede -100 feet
                                      sense – meaning, since – from [time]
cents - pennies/hundredths,
cereal - grain
                                      serial – sequenced
```

chalk - crayon check – note, Czech, cheek – face choke - squeeze C-/chuck – male name/stop

chafe – scrape chaff - discards chair - seat char - burn chard – plant charred - burnt

chased - pursued chaste - virgin, chasten - chastise chat - talk chit - receipt. Chad - name/nation

chatter - talk shatter - break cheap - inexpensive cheep - bird sound chef - cook chief - leader

chess - game cheese - dairy, chest - box/breast choose/chose - choice [infinitive]/[past] chew/-s - eat/-s, chic – trendy chick - bird, sheik/-h - Bedouin chili – pepper/food, Chile – nation chill - cool

shin - leg, shim - adjust, C-/china - nation/dishware chin - jaw,

quire - paper, acquire - obtain choir - chorus ciao – hello/good bye [Italian] chow - meal

christen – launch chrysalis - insect, crystal - glass, Christian - religion, chrysanthemum - flower

chute - fall shoot – fire gun

site – location, sight – see, scythe – cutter cite - quote

clawed - scratched, clod - dirt/dullard, cloud - obscure clad - covered,

clean - unblemished, clear - visible clan - family

claque - hired audience click - press, clique - group

clause - subsection claws - scratch climb - mount [verb] clime - climate

cloudy - overcast clowder - cats, chowder - soup close - shutter/near cloth/-e/-es - covering/cover/wardrobe

closure - ending, cloture - vote closer - ender

clothe - human covering cloth - material coach - bus/teach/-er couch - sofa/place coarse - unrefined course - path coaster - glider costar - fellow actor code/-ing - encrypt/-ion coat/-ing - cover/-ing

C-/coke - Coca Cola/furnace byproduct/cocaine, coax - motivate cock - bird/penis,

coca - cocaine cocoa – chocolate, caca – feces [Spanish] coffer - box coiffure - hair, cougher - dislodge [person]

college - school collage - paste

Colombia – nation [Spanish] Columbia – of Columbus [English] committee - group comity - courtesy, comedy - funny

commune – group/visit common - likewise cumulative – all prior communicative - understandable compliment/-ary - free gift complement/-ary - make whole complex - compound/complicated complexion – appearance

computer - computation device commuter - short distance traveler C-/cologne - city/perfume colon – rectum, column – pillar

colonel - military rank kernel - seed compost - recycle organics compote - jelly

concert - together disconcerting - bothersome consecrate - bless incarcerate - imprison continuous – uninterrupted contiguous - connected contraction – shrink contraption - silly device

Congo - nation conga - music

coo - bird sound, coup - hit/change (Fr.), cuckoo-cuckoo - clock/peek

kooky - different cookie – dessert cooperation - together corporation - form of business cop – police/plea cope – deal with, cup – drink coral - sea growth choral/-e - singers, corral - fenced cord - rope/wood chord - segment/musical notes corps/-e - group/cadaver core - center coroner – morgue person corner – edge point cough - dislodge cuff - clothing edge council - group/advice [noun] counsel – advise [verb] cranial - brain criminal - illegal cress - plant, crisscross - zigzag, cross - counter crass – uncouth crick – neck spasm creek - brook crude - raw crewed - staffed cruise - travel crews - teams criterion - standard [singular] criteria – standards [plural] critic – analyzer person critique - analysis/analyze crocket - ornament, croquet - game, croquette - food crochet - knit, crock - nonsense/pot crook - criminal crop - plants/cut croup - disease crotch - pelvic crutch - aid, crux - center cue – stick/prompt queue - waiting line, Q cur/-s - scoundrel/-s, cure/-s - fix/-es, curse/-r - swear/-er, cursor - pointer daft - silly deft - skillful, deaf - cannot hear daily - each day dally - idle, delay - postpone diary - journal, daisy - flower dairy - milk dale – glen doled/-lled - gave/prettied, dolt - dullard dame - lady dam/-n - reservoir/curse dare - challenge. dire - bad, door - closure, dour - stubborn/morose data - information [plural], date - time, datum - information [singular] D-/dawn - female name/shed light. D-/don – male name/place days - time periods daze – dizzy, das – the [German]/of the [Port.] deal - distribute/bargain dell – valley/of the [It.], del – of the [Sp.] deer – animal/-s, der – the/of [German] dear - beloved death - life cessation dearth - shortage decent - proper descend/-t - downward D-/dick - name/penis, dyke - dam deck - terrace decorum - behavior, decoration - adornment décor - design defection - quit defecation - excretion defer – yield differ - disagree defiant/-ly - contrary definite/-lv - certain/-lv deforest - cut trees defrost - melt delude - deceive dilute - mix thinner den – residence/the pl.[Ger], deign - condescend, dine - eat, din/DIN - noise/photography, dine - eat, Dan/-e - name/country dent/-s - indentation/-s dense – thick dependence – reliance dependents – recipients depose - testify dispose - process depraved - degenerate deprived - denied deprecate - insult depreciate - decrease description – story discretion - judgment desert – dry place/depart dessert - sweet meal desperate - needy disparate – different deter – repel detour - go around

```
devise – determine
device – apparatus
dial – display
                                      dill – plant
did – do [past]
                                      didn't - did not, dent - bump
die/-s - cease/-s life/the[German],
                                      dye/-s -tint/-s, die/dice - game, +
                               D – 500, di – of [Italian], de – of [Fr./Sp.]/the [Dutch]
                                      dope - dumb/glue, dupe - deceive
dip - submerge
dim – less light
                                      dime - 10 cents
dine/-r - eat/restaurant
                                      dinner - meal
                                      dinghy - small boat, dingy - dirty
ding - bell sound/dent/diminish
                                       voir dire – testimony [legal French]
dire - extreme
                                      discrete – incremental
discreet - trusty
discussed - conversation
                                      disgust - dislike
do - perform/of the[Port.],
                                      due – deadline/per, dew – moist, du – of the [French]/you [German]
                                      dough - bread/money
doe - deer
does – deer [plural]/performs, dose – portion, doze – sleep, dos – do [plural]/2 [Spanish]/of the [Port.[
                                      docent - guide, dunce - dullard
doesn't - does not
                                      doll/-v – tov model, doily – decorative cover
dole - donation
                                      don't - do not, don/-ned - wear/wore, dun - penalty
done - complete,
doom - foreboding
                                      dumb – not intelligent
door - portal
                                      dour - stern
dot – point
                                      dote - serve
dragon - mythical creature
                                      dragoon - cavalry
draft - design/tug/induct
                                      draught - beer, drought - dry, drift - aimless
dramatic - theatric
                                      traumatic - wounded
drape - cover
                                      drip - flow, drop - fall, droop - sag
dread - anxiety
                                      drudge - tiresome, dredge - scoop
ducked - lowered
                                      duct – piping
                                      dude - guy
dud - failure
duel - gun fight
                                      dual - double, dull - not bright
dungeonous - medieval
                                      Dungeness - English locale/crab
earn – gain
                                      urn - receptacle
earth - soil
                                      Earth - planet
eat - consume
                                      et/& - and [Latin/French]/a [Danish[/ampersand
ebullient - bubbly
                                      embolism - blockage
                                      epileptic – seizures, electric – energy, lactic – milk
eclectic – diverse,
ecstatic - joyful
                                      static - noise/immobile
eddy - current flow
                                      Eddie – short for Edward
effeminate - womanly
                                      effete - fatigued
e.g. - example
                                      i.e. - that is
el - elevated/the [Spanish]
                                      L-50, eel-fish, elle-she/it [Fr.]
                                      electrical - voltage powered
electoral – voting
                                      eloquent - well spoken
elegant – stylish
elicit – obtain
                                      illicit – illegal
eliminate – exclude
                                      illuminate – shine
ellipse – oval
                                      ellipsis - ...
em - M/wide font
                                      M-1000, im-in the [German]
emigrate - exit
                                      immigrate - enter
emollient - sooth
                               immolate - sacrifice, amulet - charm [noun]
empire - kingdom
                                      umpire - judge
encryption – encode
                                      inscription – writing
engine - motor
                                      Indian - India/native
enema – colon cleansing
                                      enemy - hostile
enigmatic - unknowable
                                      magnetic - attractive
```

ensue – follow issue – distribution entomology - insect study etymology - word origin eon – billion years ion - molecule epic – historic epoch/-s - era/-s, epoxy - glue epitaph – tombstone epithet – curse equate – equal equilibrate - balance, equivocate - avoid answer err/-or - mistake, heir - inheritance era – time errand – small journey errant - error escalate - increase emasculate - castrate eschew - avoid issue - distribution expose - uncover, spouse - mate espouse - promote estrange – separate strange - different, strain - sift/pull etch/-ing - draw/-ing itch/-ing - need to scratch ether/-eal - chemical/insubstantial either - one of ethic/-al - moral ethnic - racial evacuate - empty excavate - dig evade/evasive - hides invade/invasive - intrudes even – equal event - celebration, eventual - end ex - former X - 10exacerbate - worsen exasperate – vex, extricate – withdraw exact – precise/perform extract - remove exalt/-ation – raise esteem exult/-ation - joy example – specimen exemplar – prototype exercise – implement exorcise – drive out exit – out exist – to be expansive – broad expensive - costly expect – anticipate expert - knowledgeable sextant - measuring device extant – existing extrapolate - extend interpolate – estimate extrude – pushed out exude - give off ewe – sheep you – thou, U, U – you [Dutch] eye/-d - vision/viewed aye – affirmative, id – psychology, I/'d – me/1/I would, + ID – identification, i – in [Swed.]/and [Sp.] eyelet - small hole islet - small island face – front faze – bother, phase – cycle, fuss – bother faucet - water spout facet - angle fact/-s - datum/data fax – facsimile, vex – bother faction - sub group fiction - not true fad - recent trend fade - diminish, F-/fed - Federal/ate fail - not succeed fall – autumn/descend, fell – topple, fill – add, full – complete fairy - phantom ferry - boat fake - deceive façade - front/cover fallow - barren fellow - comrade, follow - after fanatic – devoted frantic – urgent fair - bazaar/just/pale, fare - price, fear - afraid, fir - tree, fire - flame far - not near farce - comedy force – pressure farther - distance further - continue fat – large fate – destiny, fit – size/ready, fought – fight [past] fatal/-e - deadly, [fem. French] fetal - unborn child

feet – foot [plural], fete – feast

felt – hat material/feel [past]

feel good/bad - health/sensation

feudal - fiefdom, futile - cannot win

feat – performance

felled - fallen

feel (not) well - touches (not) well

feud – persistent disagreement,

fizz - bubbly, fuzz - police/wooly F-/fez – city/hat

faience -ceramic [French], finance -manage cash fiancé -to be wed,

fig - fruit fog – low cloud

fill - add, fillet - boneless, filly - horse, flay - skin filet - net/[French],

filling - insertion, fling - chance/hurl filing – application/scraping,

finale - terminal celebration final - end

feigned - faked, fined - cash punishment find - locate

finish - end/shine Finnish - Finland fish - water animal phish - fake email

fissure - opening, phisher - fake emailer fisher - fish catcher

physical – movement fiscal – calendar

flaccid - deflated flax – plant flay - to skin flail – flop

flair – style flare - torch/extension

flap - cover/disagreement flip - turn, flop - failure/slam

flat - apartment/smooth, flit -flew, float -rise/launch, flout -disregard

flatter - smoother/charm[verb] flutter – flit

flawed – imperfect flowed - circulate, flood - inundation

flimflam - mistruth, flimsy - weak, phlegm-sputum, Fleming-Flemish

flee/-s - depart/-s, fleece - wool/rob flea/-s - insect/-s

flecks - spots flex - bend

flier - aviator, filer -file [person], flyer [Brit.] -leaflet/speculation [Am.]

floe - floating ice flow - proceed, movement, Flo - Florence

flour - food ingredient flower – plant bloom

flue – furnace vent, flew – fly [past] flu – influenza

faux – false foe - enemy

fold - crease foaled - horse birth

fond - residue/prefer, found – discovered, fount/-ain – water, font - type

fool - dumb fuel - energy, foal - horse flounder – fish/clumsv flopping founder - originator/sink fore - before, four - 4, fur - hair for - intended

forced – overpowered forest - trees, frost - ice

F-/ford - automobile/wade fjord - water inlet, afford - budget

foreword - introduction forward - advance  $fourth - 4^{th}$ forth – proceeding

form - style forum - theater, from - origin

formally - officially formerly – previously fort - fortification forte - strength, forté - loud found - discovered fun/-d - pleasure/monies foul – error fowl - bird, foal - horse fractional – portion fractal – sub pattern

fraction – portion friction - abrasive

frank/-urter - honest/hot dog Frank/-lin – male name/\$100 freight – shipment fret - musical scale/worry

friar – priest fryer - cook fraud - deceit fraught - filled

freeze - solidify frieze – decorative façade

frill - adornment, shrill - high pitched, trill - sound flourish, thrill - excitement

fulsome - deceptive Folsom - city

fungi – mushrooms [plural] fungus - mushroom

gaff - error golf - game, guff - backtalk, gulf - void

gait - slow gallop gate - low door, get - obtain

gal – woman gale - wind, gall - nerve, gill - breathe, goal - purpose, +

```
gaol - jail [British], Gail - female name
+
galaxy - astronomy
                                       Galaxie - car brand
gambit – bet
                                       gamut - range
gamble - chance
                                       gambol - skip
gander - bird
                                       gender - sex
                                       gauche – left/passé, gosh – wow, gush – pour
gash - cut
                                       gouge – deep scrape
gauge - measure
gaze - stare
                                       gay/-s - festive/homosexual
gear – cog
                                       gore - morbid, gyre - turn
gee - exclamation
gel – gelatin/congeal
                                       jelly – jam/compote
gem - stone
                                       gym/-nasium – building, Jim – male name
                                       jeans - denim pants, Gene/Jean - male/female name
gene/-s – heredity
genius - very smart
                                       genus – classification
gentle - kindly
                                      gentile – non believer
germane – relevant
                                       German - nationality
                                      jester – comic
gesture – indication
get/got - obtain/-ed,
                               goat - animal, gout - disease, gut - bowel, goad - urge, good - positive
gilt - golden
                                       guilt – blame
gist - essence
                                      jest – joke, just – proper
                                       glimmer – slight light
glamour - high style
gloom - dark
                                       glum - sad
                                       natty - nicely, net - catch, newt - animal, nit - small egg
gnat - insect,
goes – go [3<sup>rd</sup> person]
                                       goose - animal
golf – sport
                                       gulf - void/inlet
golfer – sport player
                                       gopher – animal, gofer – assistant [go for]
googol - 10<sup>100</sup>,
                                       goggle/-s - eye protection, Google -internet search, gaggle - geese
goon – gangster
                                       gun – pistol, gone – went
gored - stabbed
                                       gourd - vegetable
                                       guerrilla – combatant
gorilla - ape
grace - gentle/kindness
                                       grease - oily, Greece - nation
graffito – wall writing [singular]
                                       graffiti – wall writings [plural]
                                       grin - smile, groan - sigh
grain - seed, wood
grant - permit
                                       Grant - name/\$50
grapple - grasp
                                              graupel – snow pellets [German]
grate - grill/scrape
                                       great - large, greet - welcome
gravel – loose stones
                                       grove - trees, grovel - beg
grisly - gray
                                       gristly - ligaments, greasy - fatty
groan - outcry
                                       grown - become/full sized
grope/-ing - grab
                                              group/-ing - arrangement
guides - instructional aid
                                       guise - excuse, guys - group
habit - routine inclination
                                      habitat – domicile
hack - amateur/cough, hick - bumpkin, hock - pawn, hawk - sell/bird, Huck-/huckleberry - name/fruit
                                       heckle – jeer
hackle - neck
                                       hare - rabbit
hair - fur
hairy – furry
                                       harried - rushed, Harry - male name
                                       hall - passage, haul - carry, hill - mountain
hail - salute/snow
hang/-ed - suspend/-ed
                                       hung – endowed
hangar - large shed
                                       hanger - supporter
herald – sign
                                       Harold - male name
hat - covering
                    hate - dislike, hit - strike, hot - warm, hut - shed, Haiti - nation, haute - high [Fr.]
                                      hitch - halt, hutch - bin
hatch – opening
haughty - above
                                       hotty - sexy [informal]
```

have - possess halve – divide equally hay - plant/there is [Spanish] hev - salutation head - top/toward heed - follow heal - recover heel - rear of foot heard - listened herd – animal group hearse – funeral carriage hers - female possessive hearth - cooking fireplace heart – blood pump/center/♥

height -tall measure, hide -skin/not seen, high -tall, het -the [Dutch]

hen - chicken hin - there [German]

her -possessive [feminine], hear -listen, here -close by, here're -here are

hero - admired person gvro - Greek food heroin - drug heroine – female hero

hew - chop hue - color higher - above hire - employ

him - male [object] hymn - song, hem - mend

hippopotamus – animal hippopotamuses - animals [plural]

his – possessive [masculine] hiss – snake sound

ho - greeting/whore/have [Italian] hoe - tool

idle - unengaged

hole - opening whole - complete

hoard - gathering, horde - group, horrid - bad, whored - prostituted

idol - icon

horse - animal, whores - libertines hoarse - voiceless

home - center/residence hone - sharpen horror - frightening whore - libertine humidity - moist air humility - not arrogant hungry - need food Hungary - nation hyper - more hypo - less idiom - language idiot – stupid

ignominious - shameful magnanimous - kindly

I'll - I will. il/-s - he/it/thev[French]ill/-s - sick

immanent - thoughts imminent - soon imply - intend infer – perceive impotent - unable important – relevant impossible – not able impassable – blocked

in – [prep.], inn – tavern, en – N/narrow font/in [Sp.]/a [Dan./Swed.]

unalienable - permanent [archaic] inalienable – permanent

incite - instigate insight - understanding

interior - inside inferior - lesser

infinitely - unbounded infinity - forever, affinity - association

inscription – writing encryption – encode

insolent - rude insolvent - inert, insulate - protect from heat/cold

integration - meld interrogation - question interment - burial internment - imprison intrastate - inside state interstate - between states intervene – intrude intravenous - inside vein irascible - anger prone irrational - illogical

ire - anger, ir -to go [Spanish], oar - boat tool, or/-e - instead/mineral

iron – metal/press irony/-ic - counter significance

its – possessive it's - it is

J-/jack - male name/lift jax – game, Jackson - \$20

gaol [Brit.]/imprison/-ed, jilt - no agreement jail/-ed -

jar – container, ajar – open jeer – heckle, gyre – rotate

jasmine - flower jazzmen – musicians jejune – young June – month/name

jet – speed jot - write, jut/jetty - extension, jute - plant

jewed – strict negotiation (racist) Jude – Biblical joule - energy jewel – gem

jocular – humorous jugular – throat, juggler – toss performer

jute – plant Jude - name

kill/-ed - murder/-ed kale – plant, kiln – oven, kilt – male skirt

kitsch – not stylish quiche - meal

knave - rascal naïve - ignorant, knife - blade

kneed - upper leg hit, need - necessity knead - roll dough gnu – animal, new – unknown, nu – N/vknew - understood/acquainted,

knight - rank night - darkness

know/-s - understand/acquaint/-ed nose – smell no –negative/in the [Port.]/Japanese drama

lake/-s - pond/-s, lax - loose, like/-s - prefer/-s lack/-s - miss/-es.

later - in future, latter - further ladder – steps laid – lay [past], lain - placed, lane - path, lawn - grass

liar – false, lawyer – barrister, layer – put, lure – bait, leer – look, lyre – harp lair - den

lame – less able, lam(baste) – flee lamb – sheep

lap/-s - seating/sip/round lapse - omission largesse – charity largest - biggest

lass - girl, lush - verdant/drunk lash - fasten

late - tardy let – permit, lit – land/light, lot – status/plenty

later - future latter – further, ladder – steps

lath - plaster lathe – cut

laude - award loud – strong sound laugh/-ed - joke/-ed loft - attic/launch launch - inaugurate lunch - meal

law - rule, lay - recline, lie - untruth/place, lye -chemical, lei -flowers+ la/LA/L.A. – music/the [Sp./Fr./It.]/Louisiana/Los Angeles

lays – reclines, liaise – connect, lase – laser [verb], las [Sp.] laze - relax.

led - [verb past] lead lead - metal

leader – prime liter – liquid measure leafs - flips through leaves - leaf [plural]/departs

leak – drip leek – plant

leave – depart leaven – bread rise, lever – fulcrum least - minimal lest – unless, leased – rented left – port [side] leafed – flipped through, lift - raise

legislator – representative legislature – parliament lemma - choice lemming - animal lens – optic

lends - loans

lease – rent, Les/les – name/the [plural Fr.] less – decrease

lesbian - female homosexual thespian – actor

lessee - renter lessor – owner, lesser – smaller

lessen - decrease, lesson – instruction, lesion – wound, liaison - connection

letter - character/message liter - volume, litter - offspring loiter - linger

lieu - place, Lew/Lou – male name, loo – toilette [Brit], lu – read[Fr.]

ligament – connection linament – wound treatment

lightening – less heavy lightning – spark limber - flexible lumber - wood liquor – drink spirits liqueur – aperitif

lisp – speech impediment list – compilation, Liszt – composer

literal - verbatim littoral - coastal lived – live [past] livid - angry/colored

```
livery – paint design
liver – body organ
loaf - bread/loiter
                                     loathe - hate, love - like a lot
loan – lend
                                     lone - single
load - weight, fill
                                     lode - vein
lock/-s – security device
                                     loch - Scottish lake, lox - fish
lodge – place
                                     loge - balcony
                                     loom - weaver/hover, lune - moon [French]
loon – bird
loot – money, pilfer
                                     lute - instrument, lewd - vulgar
                             loose – not tight, louse – insect, Laos – nation, los – the [plural Spanish]
lose – misplace
                                     lover - sexual friend, Louvre - Paris museum
louver - window slat
lumbar – back
                                     lumber – wood/plod
ma - mother
                                     ma – but [Italian]
                                     micro - small
macro - large
made -make [past],
                                     mad -crazy, maid -female servant, mayday -help!
magma – lava
                                     magna - great
magnanimous - kindly
                                     magnificent - grand
magnate - major business person
                                     magnet - attractor
mail – postal
                                     male - masculine, mill - grind
maim - harm
                                     Ma'am - madam, mayhem - riot
main - central,
                                     man – male human, mane – horse hair, Maine [USA/Fr.]
major – important
                                     force majeure – dominating [legal]
                                     maul - mistreat, moll - girl, mole - animal/blemish
mall - courtyard,
mammary – female
                                     memory - recall
manifest – list, produce
                                     manifesto - philosophy
manner - method
                                     manor - house
many - numerous
                                     mini - small, midi - half/south [Fr.]
manacle - handcuff
                                     maniacal - crazy
mar – sea [Spanish]/deface
                                     mere – only, mire – stuck
marble - stone/varied coloration
                                     marvel - amaze
M-/march - month/parade
                                     marsh - swamp
                                     marketing - promotion
marking - print
marquee - theater display
                                     marquis - nobleman
mars – make imperfect
                                     Mars – planet
                                     merry - happy, Mary - girl's name
marry - wed
martyr - victim
                                     mortar - cement, motor - engine
mash - crush
                                     mishmash - mess, mosh - dance, mush - cereal
                             mess - disarray/dining hall, M-/miss/Ms. - lady/lack/woman, +
mass - body
                             moss - lichen, muss - disturb
massage - rub
                              message - sent information, masticate - chew, masturbate - self sex, +
                              matriculate – study [verb]
                                     mate - spouse/chess, M-/matt - male name/no luster
mat - rug,
mauve - grayish purple
                                     move - shift
M-/may -month/permit,
                                     my -I [poss.], mayday [m'aide French] - help!
                                     maize -corn, amaze -astound, amass - acquire
maze - labyrinth,
                              mile/-stone - distance/marker, mill/-stone - 1000/grind/-er, melee - fight
meal - food,
meat - flesh
                                     met/-et - [past]-/encounter, mete - perform
medal - award
                                     meddle - interfere
medium - means/measure
                                     median - middle/half
media/-um - communication
                                     means [plural]/[singular]
                                     melt – liquefy
meld - ioin
melee - fight
                                     Malay - Asian
                                     mercurial – temperamental
M-/mercury - planet/quicksilver
mercy - forgiveness
                                     merci- thank you [French], Mersey - river
```

meretricious – vulgar/money meritorious – worthy metal - chemical mettle – spirit mew - cat sound  $moo - cow sound, mu - M/\mu$ mic - microphone Mike/-cheal – male name mind - consciousness, mine/-d - my/dug, Mayan - former natives miner - digger minor - juvenile/lesser minute - 60 seconds/small minuet - dance misery - suffering miserly - stingy miss - lack Miss - maiden, Ms. - woman missed - omitted mist - water missile – projectile missive – message mitt – glove myth – legend, *mit* – with [German] monotony/-ic repeats/rises, pneumonic -lungs mnemonic-memory aid, Mobil – former petroleum company mobile – moveable model - miniature mottle - speckled modern - new moderne – art style monogamy - single marriage mahogany - wood mold - fungus/form molt - shed mom/-my - mother mum/-my - flower/quiet/-embalmed moose - animal/-s mouse/mice - foam/animal/-s, muss - mess moat - ditch, mute - quiet, mutt - dog moot – past questioning more/-s - customs/additional M-/moor - Arab/field/tie down morn/-ing - daybreak mourn/-ing - sad/-ness motif - design motive - desire much - great, mulch – soil, mush – ground cereal/march [Canadian] muscle - flesh mussel - shellfish Muslim - Islam believer muslin - cloth muster - strength mustard - seed nacelle - cowling nasal - nose Niger - nation, nog - drink, N-/negro - race origin/color [Sp.], + nag/-ger – pester/[person] niggardly - stingy [Norwegian] nail - fastener/claw nil - nothing narwhal - whale gnarl - twisted Nash - name/car gnash - grind net - catch, newt - animal, gnat/nit - insect natty – nicely knot/-ty - tie/complex, node - branch, not - no, + naught/-y - nil/misbehave, nut/-y - seed, nod - head down, note - music/jot noxious - deadly gas nauseous – makes sick naval - maritime navel - belly nav -negative, na-in the [Portuguese], née -born as, neigh -horse sound ne'er - never, nor - neither near - close by neither – both [negative] nether - low negation - negative negotiation - barter net - catch newt - animal N-/nice – city/pleasant niece – sibling daughter, gneiss – rock nine - 9nein – no [German] noble - regal/inert gas/lofty **Nobel – chemist/prize** none - negative nun - cleric, noon - midday nook - opening nuke - nuclear noose – loop, knows – know [3<sup>rd</sup>],nos – in the [plural Port.] nose - smell, OK – approved, K – kilo/1000, cay/quai – island/wharf[Fr.] oak - tree. or/-e - instead/mineral, o'er - over oar - boat tool oat - grain out - exit, ought - should, owed - indebted

```
obstreperous - contrary
                                      obstetrician – doctor
octopus – animal
                                      octopuses – animals [plural]
of - from
                                      off - not on, oaf - dullard
ogre - beast
                                      orgy – love party
oh - exclamation.
                                      owe – due, O/o – the [Port.], au – to the [French]
ohm - electrical measure
                                      om - chant
omelet - egg meal
                                      umlaut - +(e)[German]
on – upon
                                      own - possess
one -1
                                       won - win [past]/Chinese food
ordnance - military equipment
                                      ordinance - law
orient – locate/east
                                      orientate – locate [British]
over - above/passed
                                      oeuvre - work effort [French]
                                      overdue - late
overdo - excess
pa – father,
                                      p\dot{a} - on [Danish/Swedish], paw – animal foot/touch
paced - followed
                                      paste – glue
pack/-s - load, pax - peace [Latin], peck - nibble, pick - ax/choose, pock/pox - disease, puck - hockey
                                      pedal – foot lever, peddle – sell, petal – flower part
paddle - swat.
paid - pay [past]
                                      payed - slackened
pail - bucket,
                                      pal - friend, pale - whitish, pill - medicine/shed[verb]
pair - couple, par - equal, pare - trim, pear - fruit, peer - equal/look, pier - wharf, pyre - crematory
pallet - mounting surface,
                                      palate - roof of mouth, palette - paint mixer, pellet - small ball
palm – tree
                                      pom(-pom) - cheerleader device
pan - shallow container/rate low
                                      pain – discomfort, pane - rectangle
pang – pain
                                      ping/- -pong - sound/game, prang - dent [British]
                                      paint - apply color, pint - quantity, punt - kick/defer
pant – trouser/breath heavy,
                                      panini – sandwiches [plural]
panino - sandwich [singular]
paparazzo – fish, photographer
                                      paparazzi – photographers [plural]
                                      perimeter – boundary
parameter – variable
parity - equality
                                      parody - imitation
parish – area
                                      perish – die
                                      pears - fruits, purse - bag/kiss
parse - separate
part – piece
                                      port - harbor/liquor/left
party - celebration,
                                      petty - small minded, potty - toilet, putty - cement
passé – old
                                      posse - group
                                      past – former
passed – overtook
pastiche – imitation
                                      pistachio – nut
                                      pasture - field, pasteurize - boiled
pastor - clergy
pat/pet - touch/animal
                               pit – hole, pot – container/marijuana, pout – sad, put/-t – place/stroke
patch - covering
                                      pitch - tar/music
pathetic - sad
                                      prophetic – foretold
                                      patient/-s - doctor client/-s
patient/-ce - time tolerant
paunch - stomach
                                      punch - hit
pause – stop
                                      paws – mammal feet, pa's – dad's, posse – group
pawn – chess piece/hock
                                      prawn – shrimp
pea/-s - vegetable/-s
                                      pee/-s - urinate/-s/P, peace - tranquility, piece - portion
peak - mountain top
                                      peek - furtive look, pique - bother/interest
pearl - jewelry
                                      peril - danger, puerile - childish, prowl - lurk
peal/-ed - unwrap/-ped
                                      peel - ring, pelt - fur/strike
peculiar/-ity - uniqueness
                                      pecuniary - money, culinary - cooking
pediatrician – baby doctor
                                      podiatrist - foot doctor
pedigree – heritage
                                      perigee – closest
pen – enclose/write
                                      pin - pointed
penal – punishment
                                      penile - male sex
```

penchant – inclination pension – retirement penultimate  $-2^{nd}$  to last ultimate – 1<sup>st</sup>/last, petulant – fretful per - each/by purr - cat sound pernicious – mean spirited promiscuous – libertine perquisite/perk – benefit/alert prerequisite - requirement personnel - employees personal – individual protuberance - protruding perturbation – agitation pleasant - comfortable pheasant – bird phenomenon -occurrence [singular] phenomena -occurrences [plural] phone - telephone/-y phony – insincere picture – scene pitcher - thrower/container pie – dessert  $pi - \Pi/\pi$ piety – religious pity – sorry, pithy – meaty pile – heap pill - medicine/bead pilot - guide Pontius Pilate - Roman governor pip – bud pipe – tube plaid - crisscross design played – play [past] plain - simple/field plane - airplane/flatten plague – disease plaque - sign announcement plea/-s - request/-s please – favor plumb - align, aplomb -confidence plum – fruit plod – step plot – plan P-/pole - Polish/long stick, polish -shine, poll -survey, pol -politician poignant - relevant pungent - strong odor pound - weight/hit pond – lake puddle – wet spot poodle - dog pool - lake/game/gather pull – tug pore - opening, pour - dispense/for [French] poor – not rich poplar – tree popular - well liked poppycock – nonsense popinjay – talkative portend – foretell portent - meaning, pretend - not genuine pose - position prose – not poetry posh - nice/"Port Out Stern Home" push - shove postpone – delay prepone - advance [Indian] pray/-s - ask/-s praise - compliments, prey - food precede - prior proceed - continue precedence – rule precedent – previous preset - default precept - presumption precipitate - rain/cause reciprocate - respond precipitous – hasty propitious – favorable preferred - equity/liked, preference - choice prefer – like premier – chief première - first performance preparation – readiness reparation – payment prepare - ready repair – correct perquisite/perk - reward/alert prerequisite - requirement presence - attendance presents - gifts/gives prescribe - recommend proscribe - bounded P-/president - [with proper name]/[without], resident - inhabitant presume – believe resume – start again, résumé - summary pries – opens with effort prize – value prim - proper prime – basic prince - king's son print/-s - impression/-s principal – important principle – rule

respite – pause

prier - opener, priory - church prior - previous prodigy - young genius progeny - offspring profit – gain prophet – foretell prune - fruit/trim prone - reclined prostate - male organ prostrate – reclined province - region provenance - origin, providence - gift proximate – next proxy - substitute psychology/-ist - mental/analyst psychiatry/-ist - brain/doctor pubic - sexual privates public – everyone purse – kiss ready/bag purrs - cat sound pylon - pole python - snake quack - false doctor/duck sound quake - earth tremble quail – animal quill - feather quality/-ative - better quantity/-ative - amount squash - plant/crush quash - suppress quit – cease quite - more so, quiet - silence rabbet - indentation rabbit - animal rabbis - clerics rabies - animal disease rack - display rake - tool/rascal racket – noise/deception racquet – webbed paddle raconteur - story teller racketeer – criminal rail - guide/complain rile – disturb rain - precipitation, ran - run [past], reign - governance, rein - leash, Rhein - river raise - lift/parent [verb], race - competition/origin, raze - destroy, rays - shine rally – gathering really - true raunchy - rude, wrench - tool ranch - animal farm rap/-ped - tap/speak, rape - violate, wrap - contain, rapt - engrossed rapture – joy, rupture – burst raptor – bird rear - back/raise, roar - yell rare - unusual rate - tariff/evaluate, writ - legal rat – animal rational - logical rationale - reason read - view/-ed words, red - color/network [Spanish], reed - grass real – true/regal [Spanish] reel - coil realty – home sales reality - truth, Realtor - group reason - logic resin – sap, raison – dried grape/reason (Fr.) reinsurance – secondary insurance reassurance – gain certainty rebound – come back redound - accrue recede - pull back reside - inhabit, reseed - replant recent - near past resend/-t - send again/[past], rescind - cancel reckless - without care feckless - fearless recreation - relaxation re-creation - repeat redaction - reviewed reductive – simple reek - smell bad wreck - damage refer/-red - indicate/-d, reefer - refrigerator/joint, refereed - juried register - check in registrar - office relay/-s - sequence/-s rely/-ies - depend/-s remainder - leftover reminder - recall remand - send back reprimand - scold remuneration - payment re-(e)numeration - recount rescind – cancel resend – send again residence - home residents - dwellers resolution - decision revolution - change/cycle

respiration – breathe

résumé – personal summary resume – continue revile - ridicule reveille – wake up revise - change revive - back to life rhinoceros - animal rhinoceroses – animals [plural] rice - grain rise/rose - lift/-ed/flower rich - wealthy wretch - horrid rid/-s - dispose/-s. ride – carried, writ/-s – warrant/-s, Ritz – 5 star rife - full riff/-raff - portion/commoner right -correct/starboard, rite -ceremony, wright -worker, write -print de rigueur - proper, vigor - strength rigor - difficult risqué – sexually suggestive risky – unsafe roam - wander Rome - city road – path rode - [past] ride, rowed - [past] row robe/-d - clothe/-d, rub/-bed - massage/-d rob/-bed - steal/stole, roil - stir royal - regal role - character roll – list/revolve roof – building cover rough - irregular roomer - boarder rumor - gossip root – plant rout - extract, route - plan rose - flower/lifted rows - lines/strokes rot/-e - decay/memory, rut - groove, wrought - work, wrote - printed roughly – approximately ruffled - loose folds row - scuffle/boat roué – cad, rho – P/p ruin - relic/destroy rune - letter character rush/-es - thicket/hurry Russ/-ia - name/nation rustle - movement Russell - male name, wrestle - grapple RAI – Radio Audizioni Italiane, raï – Arabic music, + rye – grain, wry - thin/jest, awry - unplanned sac - biologic container, sake - drink/interest sack - bag/discharge sacred - holy scare/-d - frighten/-ed, scar/-red - wound/-ed said – say [past], side – vertical, sod – soil, sighed – breathed, suds – soapy sad – unhappy sadden - make unhappy, sodden - wet, sudden - quick, Sudan -nation sadistic - cruel statistic - data sail – boat by wind sale – vend, soil – dirty sallow – sickly yellow shallow - not deep, fallow - barren salon - room saloon - bar, selon - according [French], Ceylon/Sri Lanka - nation save - conserve, savvy - smart salve - ointment simple - not complex sample – test sanguine - cheerful/bloody sequin - ornament sip – drink, soap – cleanser, soup – meal, sup – dine sap - tree/drain, sari – Asian dress sorry - apology sate/-ed - feed/fed fully seat/-ed - chair/sat satin - cloth Satan – Devil scald - burn scold - reprimand, schooled - educated skill - ability, school - learn scale - covering/weigh scam - deception scheme – plot, skim – superficial scamp – rascal skimp - minimal scar/-red - wound/-ed, scare/-d - frighten/-ed, score/-d - gain/-ed seen - had viewed scene - locale sent - send [past] scent - smell scepter - regal wand specter - ghost schooner - boat sooner - recent scoop - large spoon skip – jump over

Scots - people scotch – a drink scrap – discard scrape – scratch scuff - mar skiff - boat

scuffle - fight shuffle - rearrange

sea - ocean. see – province/view, C - 100, si/si - if/yes [Spanish], S-/sie - you/she [German]

seem – appear, same – identical seam – stitch

seaman/-en – mariner/-s semen - seed sear - cook seer - foresee

seat - bottom seed - reproductive germ

succeed - win secede - withdraw succession - sequence secession - separation

secret - hidden secrete - ooze sects - devotees sex - procreation

seek/-s - search/-es Sikh/-s – Punjabi/-s, six - 6selfish – own shellfish – crustacean seminal - inaugural Seminole - native American

send/-t - deliver/-ed scent - smell

sense - meaning since - from [time], cents - pennies

separate - detach serrate – dotted holes

sequence – ordering seguins - cloth ornamentation

serf – feudal servant surf - skim

serif – printed letter flourish sheriff – county police

serious - thoughtful, cereus - cactus, Sirius/Ceres - stars/goddess

sever - chop several - a few

sewn - stitched soon – near in time, sown – seeded

shackle - chain shekel - coin

shall - will. shell – (un)cover, shill – cohort, shoal – coast, school – learn

shard - fragment shared - gave

shoe - foot/hoof, shoo - scatter, show/-n - display/-ed, shun - avoid

shout – yell, shut – close, shot – fire [past] shoot - young growth/fire,

should - obliged showed - presented

shrill – high pitched trill - sound flourish, thrill - excitement

shudder - shiver, shutter - closure/close, stutter/sputter - hesitation

sic – verbatim/pursue sick - ill

sigh/-s - wistful breath/-s, size – quantity,  $psi - \Psi/\phi$ , scythe/-s – cutter/-s sin/-e - fault/trigonometry, sen - Japanese sign - indication

silly - foolish sully - besmirch, sally - walk

sync - synchronize/-d sink - basin

sir/-e - male salutation sire - birthed slack/-s - gap/pants slake – quench

slat - thin board slate - list/rock, slit - narrow opening/cut

slaw - salad, slew – killed, slow – not fast, slough – pond/shed [verb]

slay – kill sleigh - sled slight - minimal sleight - dexterous smear – wipe schmear – spread

smelled - sensed odor smelt - fish/metal treatment

smote - strike smoke – burn smoother - more flat smother - deny air snip – cut snipe - bird/shoot

so - more. sow - pig/plant, sew - stitch, S-/sue - name/legal action soar/-ed - fly/flew, sword - knife, sore - pain, sour/ed - rotten/[past]

soled - shoed, soiled - dirtied, silt - mud sold – sell [past]

solder - meld soldier - military

soil – dirt/-y, soul – essence, Seoul – South Korea capital sole – bottom/single solace - comfort solstice - sun cycle extreme some – partial sum – total, psalm – prayer sun/-ny - our star/daylight son/-ny - male child sordid – immoral sorted - arranged soot-ash, suit -outfit/apropos, sued-law, sought-seek [past] sot-drunk. sound - noise/depth sunned - tanned span - reach, spin/-un - rotate/-d, sprain - hurt, Spain - nation spar - boat item, spare - extra, spear - sword, spore - seed, spur - extension, sparse - few spat/spit - shoe/[past]-/discharge/rotisserie, spite - revenge, sprite - faerie/limber, spate - period specious – false argument species – animal grouping speak/spoke - talk/[past]/wheel spook - ghost spell – time/write spill - overturn, spool - wheel spinner – twirls spinster – single woman squid - fish, squib - degrees, squab - bird squad - group staff – stick/assistants staphylococcus – bacteria staid – sober/established staved - remained stair - tread star - sky/actor, stare - look at, starboard - right stake – investment/spike steak – beef, stack – pile stationary – fixed in place stationery – writing paper statue - model statute - law steal/stole -rob/-bed/coat, steel -metal, stool - chair/feces, stale - old steep – sloped/linger step – advance, steppe – prairie steer/-ed - animal/guide/-d stir/-red - mix/-ed stick/-s - branch/-es shtick – act, Styx – river stop – halt stoop - stairs/bend straight - direct strait - narrow strange - bizarre strangle – squeeze strain - sift/stretch strewn - scattered sully - besmirch. surly – rude, surely – positively, Shirley–female name summary – outline summery - warm sundae - dessert Sunday - Sabbath/day supine – back sublime - chemical/subtle sudden – quick Sudan - nation surgery – medical cutting sugary - sweet suit - appropriate/clothing suite - room superficial – skim superfluous – unnecessary, supercilious – arrogant surpass - better surprise – unexpected swap - exchange sweep - clean, swipe - steal, swoop - fly swat/-h – swipe/cut swarthy - dark sweat – perspiration sweet - sugary swell/swoll - enlarge/[past]/great swill – spoiled swish - sashay Swiss - Switzerland, swoosh - air sound symbol - emblem cvmbal - drum instrument titillation - tease, tintinnabulation - tinkling tabulation – tally tack/-s/-ed - fasten(er)/-s/-ed tact - skill, take - receive, tax - fee tale – story, tell – say tail - rear talk - sav tock - clock sound (tick-) tamper - disrupt tambour - drum tape-fasten/record, tip-turnover/benefit, type-genre/print tap-touch, taper – attenuate tapir – animal tar – petroleum, tare - net weight, tear/tore - eye/rip/[past], tier - stage, + tire - wheel/fatigue, tour - travel

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taro - vegetable
                                       tarot - cards
tarp - covering
                                       top – above
tart - sweet
                                       tort - damage
taught – instructed,
                        taut - tight, tout - promote/all [French], tot - child, tote - carry, toot - whistle
tea/-s – a drink
                                       tease – taunt, tee/-s – T/Ts, ti – you [Spanish]
                                       tit/tat - response, tight - secure
teat - nipple
teepee – native tent
                                       TP - toilet paper
teethe - growing pain
                                       tithe - church donation
telepathy - mind reading
                                       telephony - telephones
temblor - quake
                                       timber - wood, tremble - shiver
temerity - fearless
                                       timidity - shyness
temper - anger/anneal
                                       timber - lumber, temperature - heat
                                       tempera – paint, tempura – Japanese food
temporal - time
temptation – desire
                                       tintinnabulation – tinkling
ten – 10
                                       tin - metal, tine - fork
tentacle - extremity
                                       testicle – male sex
                                       taint - not pure, tint/-s - color, tense - time/anxious
tent/-s - cloth structure,
                                       turn - revolve, torn - ripped
tern – bird
than - comparative
                                       then - followed, thin - not thick, thine - yours
the – specific
                                       thee - you, they - them, though - however
their - possessive,
                                       there – place, there're – there are, they're – they are
theirs – possessive [plural]
                                       there's - there is
these - nearby
                                       thesis/-es - idea/-s
thirsty - dry
                                       Thursday - day
threw - throw [past]
                                       through – method, thorough – entire
                                               tuck - place inside, toke - puff, toque - hat, +
tick/-tock - insect/twitch/time second,
                               touque – warm hat [Canadian]
                                       Thai - Thailand
tie – knot, equal
till - cashbox/turn soil/to [Swedish],
                                        'til – until, til – to [Danish]
time - clock
                                       thyme - seasoning
                                       type - version/write
tip – benefit/turn over
tire - wheel/fatigue
                                       tyre - wheel [British]
                                       too – also/very, two – 2, tu – you [Spanish]
to - infinitive/direction,
toad - frog
                                       towed – pulled
                                       tow – pull, tau - T/\tau
toe – foot digit
                                       tolled - rang, toiled - worked
told - said
                                       tone - pitch, atone - undo harm, toon - cartoon, +
ton/-ne - 2,000 pounds/[British],
                                 tune - song/adjust pitch
torrents - inundation
                                       Torrance - city/name
turret/-s - revolving platform
                                       Tourette/-'s – speech disorder
                                       trowel - tool, troll - gnome
towel - drying cloth
trail - path,
                                       trawl - drag, troll - dwarf, trial - deliberation, trill - sound
train - vehicle/exercise
                                       trine – triple
translation – change language
                                       transliteration - translate letters
trap – snare
                                       trip/-e - journey/misstep/worthless, troop - group
tread/trod - sole/step/[past]
                                       treed - up a tree, tried - try [past]/juried
treaty - agreement
                                       traitor - betraver
treble -music/3 times [adj.],
                                       thrice/triple - 3 times, trouble - difficulty
                                       treasury - funds
treachery – betrayal
trellis – support
                                       trestle - bridge
trench - hole
                                       tranche – slice [French]
tribulation - trial
                                       trepidation - fear
tri – triple
                                       try - attempt
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trickle – drip treacle – molasses trumpet – bugle strumpet – prostitute trust - rely tryst - meeting, triste -sad [French] turbine – impeller turban - hat tutor - instruct Tudor - style, two door - car twit – simpleton tweet - chirp twin – pair twine - string udder - cow mammary utter - speak/entire underling - subordinate underlining - underscored unique - one of a kind, eunuch - castrated male, UNIX - computer until – 'til, up to till - cash box, turnover vain – selfish vane - propeller, vein - path/meaning, vine - plant valet - servant valley - depression valor - courage velour - velvet valuable - worthy viable - life vary - change very - more so vat - container vet - veteran/veterinarian/examine venal - abhorrent venerable – persistent veneer - appliqué vernier - adjustment device venous - vein Venus – planet/goddess verbal – oral vernal - autumn verses - lyrics versus - counter/against vertex - angle vortex - turbulence vial - container vile – abhorrent vie – compete V-5vitals – life statistics victuals/vittles - food/[slang] violence – physical harm violets – flowers virga - dry rain virgin – chaste, *verga* – penis [Spanish] virtual – realistic virtuous - righteous waif-child. wave-salute, wove-sew [past], wife-woman, waive-excuse wall/-s - side, whale/-s - sea mammal/-s, Wales wail/-s - cry/-ies, waist - mid body waste - left over wait -delay, wet-moisten, weight-proportion/measurement, wit-smart waitress - female server wastrel - waster wave - undulate, WAVES - Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service waive – exception WAC - Women's Army Corps, wax - bees wake/-s - funeral/wave/-s, wok – cooking utensil, woke – wake [past] walk - proceed by foot, wander – without goal wonder - question want - desire wont - predisposed, won't - will not wear/wore - clothe/[past], wire - thread, weir - breakwater, + ware - products were – be [past], we're – we are, wary – cautious warehouse – depot Wherehouse – store name warrior - soldier warier - more cautious, wearier - more tired warship – military vehicle worship - pray wary – afraid weary – tired was/-n't - be[past]/-not,way/-s - path/-s, weigh/-s -measure/-s, whey - milk product wee - small we – us weak – not strong week - 7 days weather - climate whether - if weave – intersperse we've - we have wed - marry we'd – we would, weed – undesirable plant

wired – electrified

wield - manipulate

weird - different

weld - bond

we'll – we will well – source/good [adverb]

wench - woman wrench - tool, ranch - animal farm

wet - moist whet - sharpen, wit - smarts where're – where are whir – spin

which - choice witch - supernatural woman

wile – skill/idle while - during whine - shrill complaint wine - drink whinge - complain wing - flight whirled – swung world - environ whistle - shrill sound wistful - longing

who/'s - [subject]/who is whom - [object], whose - possessive

why – question Y, y – and [Spanish] wiener - frankfurter winner – best player

windy – gusty Wendy – girl's name [L. Carroll]

would/-n't - inclined/-not wood - tree material

wrath - dislike wreath - laurel

wreck - destroyed reek - smell, rake - rascal/tool

yacht - boat vet - until vank - pull sharply Yank - Yankee yarn - story/twine vearn - desire yawl - tool y'all - you all

year – time you're - you are, your - [possessive], yore - past

you'd – you would Yute - Indian

you'll - you will, Yule - Christmas, y'all - you all, Yale - university

yuck – disdain yuk/-s – laugh/-s zu – to [German] zoo – animal park zoom - fast sound *zum* – to the [German]

#### Style Preferences

Proper nouns (things that are unique) are capitalized including the names of days and months, but seasons (winter, spring, summer, fall/autumn) are not unless used as proper nouns (This year the Spring Festival will start in winter). This usage contrasts to German where all nouns are capitalized versus say French where adjectival proper nouns are not (une voiture américaine). Generally a title for a person's position is not capitalized unless part of a proper name (president of the United Statesvs. President Lincoln). Title and heading conjunctions and prepositions are often not capitalized (and, or, but, in, on, of, against, under, ...) unless it is the first word with a heading normally taking no punctuation, no underlining (unless secondary), nor italics (unless tertiary). A heading should start the next page if nothing would appear below it on the same page.

Subject noun and verb agreement regarding singular and plural is de rigueur in English; in the third person, non irregular forms have a terminal s on either the subject noun (plural) or the verb (singular) as in the car runs vs. the cars run. Superlatives should be unmodified, but consider from the U.S. Constitution: "In order to form a more perfect union." Preferred spellings exist for: abridgment, acknowledgment and judgment (not -dgement), as well as for: collectible, compatible, convertible, and deductible (not -able). Consider the following past tense words with double terminal consonants: cancelled, conferred, deferred, inferred, preferred, occurred, and referred but offered and traveled.

Multiple adverbs and adjectives take a hyphen between related words (two-year multiple course disciplines), [verb]-[preposition] takes a hyphen when used as a noun (shake-down, strike-out, break-up), as well as the written numbers between twenty-one and ninety-nine. Writing programs often convert two hyphens to a dash (-) and is appropriate for an explanation. Common abbreviations include e.g. (examples), i.e. (namely), and NB (note well as in a footnote). Superscripts are used in mathematical expressions and as citations to footnotes or references (1); subscripts are used for differentiated variables  $(A_1 \text{ vs. } A_3)$ .

Counted small integer numbers are properly spelled out as words; sizes are properly expressed as numerals (three 2 ounce packages). Pagination uses lower case Roman numerals for a preface and Arabic numerals thereafter. Use a decimal point (.) in numbers for proportions less than one and commas (,) between thousands, but not for years; this differs from some European notation which may reverse these or use spaces for thousands; U.S. billion and trillion may be European milliard and billion respectively. Ordinal numbers (can be treated arithmetically) are written in Arabic characters (3, 1647, etc.); cardinal numbers (nominal or not subject to arithmetic treatment) are written in Roman numerals (III, MDCXLVII, etc.). Educational degree award dates and dates of publication take brackets [2011], employment periods take parentheses (from-to). Parenthesis usage is nested as ([{ ... }]) for written words and mathematical expressions. Non original parenthetical remarks within quotations take brackets; a common non original parenthetical remark is "[sic]" denoting an uncorrected literal quotation. If a quotation is preceded by a full sentence, place a colon (:) between them. If a quotation is preceded by a verb, place a comma (,) between them; if preceded by "that" for an indirect quotation then no quotation marks are used. While subject to variation, punctuation should end within the closing quotation mark (."), (!"), and (?") if in the original; note that others including Jeopardy! place these marks ("?) after for titles. Names of books and publications are italicized (formerly underlined) as are foreign and new words or for emphasis. Bold font may be used to denote important words.

The opening and closing quotation marks properly appear as inverted versions of each other ("...") with single versions ('...') for quotations within a quotation (British practice is reversed). Double spacing is preferred between sentences (and avoids confusion regarding terminal abbreviations)—likewise two spaces precede post/zip codes and follow after colons (:) and before the start of a list. Commas (,) separate all listed items of three or more (...colleges of Baltimore, William and Mary, and Dover); semicolons (;) separate closely related sentences and they separate greater lists from lesser lists. Spacing between ellipses (...) and initials (U.S.) may be omitted. Symbols (% and \$, €, or £) are used in tables, but in a sentence are properly spelled out (percent and dollar -s, or euro -s, or pound -s). The apostrophe (') appears before the s for possessives and after for plural possessives (Jones' vs. Joneses but St.James's Place). Numbers receive similar treatment (the 40s or '40s) while notable decades are spelled out as proper names (the Twenties, the Sixties). References list citations; a bibliography may contain additional references. Styles vary significantly, but a generally accepted one is to present them alphabetically not indented, by author's last then first name, coauthor's first then last name(s), title in quotation marks, publication in italics, date of publication in brackets, then publisher and location or volume/edition number, date, and pages therein with unnecessary commas being generally omitted. Internet sources should provide similar information if available and the URL. Examples are:

Author, First and Second Author, *Text* [2012] Publisher, Place Author, First, "Title" *Journal Name* Vol. 1, No. 2 [Month, 2012] pp. 1-10 Author, First, "Title" [Month, 2012] www.URL.com

See also:

http://www.aresearchguide.com/styleguides.html

Common Errors in English Usage,

 $http://public.wsu.edu/{\sim}brians/errors/errors.html \#errors$ 

Damn You Auto Correct,

http://damnyouautocorrect.com/13603/the-25-funniest-autocorrects-of-dyacs-first-year/

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Garbage In, Garbage Out: Errors Caused by Over-Reliance on Spelling Checkers, by Sean Igo,

http://www.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/spellcheck.html

Spell Checker "Misspellings," http://englishplus.com/news/news0102.htm

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Turabian, Kate L., A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations [2007] University of Chicago Press

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